Bird
248

Hill

I did therefore press his R. H. about the
observation of those treaty ch were not temporary:
shewing that we did comply ch on our part thereof
exactly. that if his R. H. & his ministers did think
fit to break of all commerce we ly, I only desired
a declaration thereof that our merchants might
not be deceived und'r d hopes of such benefits as
those treaty promised &c. his Highness at last assured
me that his intention was, to observe those treaty
exactly, and at my further sollicitations I obtained
a declaration to that purpose from d marquis
de St Thomas, d originall whereof I left in d
hands of our consul. Facsimile of Mr. Hill's Hand Writing.

THE

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENCE

OF

THE RIGHT HON. RICHARD HILL,

(L. L. D., F. R. S., &c., &c.)

ENVOY EXTRAORDINARY

FROM THE COURT OF ST. JAMES TO THE DUKE OF SAVOY,

IN

THE REIGN OF QUEEN ANNE:

FROM JULY 1703, TO MAY 1706:

SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE HISTORY OF EUROPE, AND ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE SECRET POLICY OF SOME OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED SOVEREIGNS AND STATESMEN RELATIVE TO THE SPANISH SUCCESSION; OF THE RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES OF THE VAUDOIS, GUARANTEED BY ENGLAND, AND OF THE WARS IN THE CEVENNES, PIEDMONT, AND LOMBARDY, DURING THAT PERIOD.

With Autographs of many illustrious Individuals.

EDITED

BY THE REV. W. BLACKLEY, B. A.,

DOMESTIC CHAPLAIN TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE VISCOUNT HILL.

PART I.

LONDON:
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET,
1845.

I did therefore press his R. H. to point the

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TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE VISCOUNT HILL,

AND

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD BERWICK,

DESCENDED,

AS BOTH THEIR LORDSHIPS ARE,

FROM THE

FATHER OF THE EMINENT STATESMAN,

WHOSE DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENCE, DURING THE PERIOD

HE WAS ENVOY EXTRAORDINARY

FROM ANNE, QUEEN OF ENGLAND, TO VICTOR AMEDE'E, DUKE OF SAVOY,

IS HERE PRESENTED TO THE PUBLIC,

THIS WORK IS,

BY PERMISSION, MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

BY THEIR

OBLIGED AND HUMBLE SERVANT,

THE EDITOR.

PREFACE.

It is a circumstance to be regretted that but comparatively few particulars are known of the life of the distinguished individual, a part of whose correspondence is now for the first time published. Until very lately it was not known that any such documents, as those now presented to the public, were in existence; the Editor and Mr. Hill's family not being aware that any of his papers remained, beyond a few unimportant letters: a traditional remembrance of him, however, existed; and occasionally a reference to him might be met with. In the Rev. J. B. Blakeway's "Sheriffs of Shropshire," he is called "THE GREAT HILL." The Rev. W. Betham, in his English Baronetage, also says of him: "He "[Mr. Hill] was, in the time of King William III, Envoy "Extraordinary to the Court of Brussels, as also in that "Reign and Queen Anne's to the Courts of Turin, and of "all the other Italian Princes, except the Roman Pontiff. "In the time of King William he was Paymaster of his Ma-"jesty's armies in Flanders, where, by his remarkable punc-"tuality and just dealings, he acquired so great credit as "to be able by it to subsist the armies there, when remit-"tances came too slow for that purpose from England; "which great service gained him the favour of the King, "his master, who, soon after the conclusion of the peace, "appointed him to be one of the Lords Commissioners for "executing the great office of Lord High Treasurer of "England. His merit also recommended him to the fa-"vour of Queen Anne, who, soon after her accession to the "throne, appointed him one of the Council to his Highness

"Prince George, of Denmark, as Lord High Admiral of "England; and in 1703 sent him to the Duke of Savoy, a "Prince remarkable for his politics, with whom he succeeded "so well as to bring him into the Grand Alliance." In a note too of Mr. Speaker Onslow, in Bishop Burnet's 'History of his own Times,' he is thus mentioned: "He "[Mr. Hill] was then abroad, Deputy Paymaster of the "forces, and was afterwards, I think, one of our Ministers at "the Treaty of Ryswick. He was very able in business, "and much esteemed by King William, whom he almost "adored, and often reflected with some severity on his own "party (he was a tory) for their false notions of foreign "affairs, with regard to England, and for their not better "supporting the King in the war. I have read many of his "letters, and they prove him to have been a very considerable "person, and made for higher stations than he arrived to. "He was some time in the Admiralty, and everywhere in "general estimation with people of all denominations for his "abilities and his virtue. He had an academical education, "was a scholar, and had taken Deacon's orders, which he laid "aside while employed in civil affairs; but upon his with- "drawing from them, he resumed his clerical character, took "Priest's orders, and became a Fellow of Eton College. He "lived, the latter part of his life, in no high fashion, at Rich- "mond, in Surrey; where however he was much resorted to "by the most eminent persons of that time. The Royal "family shewed him very particular regards. He continued "a tory to the last, but of that sort who were earnest for the "succession in the house of Hanover, when that was a very "small party." These and a few other notices of Mr. Hill, in connection with statements from tradition, induced the Editor to determine on ascertaining, if possible, whether some documents could not be found which would afford a fuller knowledge of his character, history, and employments. He was able to find nothing at Hawkstone, beyond the unimportant letters before alluded to. He then instituted an inquiry, through the late Lord Hill, whether

any papers of interest and consequence concerning his distinguished relative remained at the Horse Guards, the Editor supposing it possible, as Mr. Hill was nine years Paymaster of the Forces in Flanders, under King William III, that something would in that public office be discovered, which might throw light on his history; but nothing was found. The Editor then, after failing of success in another quarter, nearly abandoned all hope; and the chances, considering that Mr. Hill had been dead nearly 120 years, were certainly against the probability of success. It struck him, however, as a last resource, that there might perchance be some of his papers at Attingham, the seat of the Right Honourable Lord Berwick: he, therefore, availed himself of an early opportunity of speaking to his Lordship, who very kindly gave him permission to search; and the result was a discovery of a great number of papers relating to him from 1692 to 1706. Of the papers then brought to light, those contained in the present work are a portion. The period to which they relate is one of deep interest and importance in the History of Great Britain. Lewis XIV was in the prosecution of his ambitious projects for subjecting almost the whole of Europe to his control. England, Holland, Austria, Prussia, and Portugal had entered into a league against him: their combined armies were beginning to humble his proud and ambitious spirit: the Duke of Savoy, who had been united with him in his projects, was beginning to hesitate, and had manifested an inclination to join in the Grand Alliance. This disposition was caught at by England, not only from a desire to increase the number of the allies against France, but from a conviction that it was of the utmost importance to the allied cause that Savoy should be joined with them, in order to weaken the power of Lewis XIV in Italy, as well as to cause another and important diversion of his forces. Mr. Richard Hill, then (July 1703) a Lord of the Admiralty, was sent to the Duke of Savoy, as Envoy Extraordinary from the British Court, in the hope of negotiating a treaty with that Prince; and, after meeting with

various delays and difficulties, as referred to in the correspondence contained in this work, succeeded in the object of his mission; subsidizing the Duke and bringing him into the cause of the allies against France. It is singular, that, after such a lapse of time, so many letters on one subject, and that subject in immediate connection with the annals of Great Britain, and the History of Europe, should have been preserved. The Editor will not say that the correspondence is complete; but he imagines that but few correspondencies have ever appeared so little imperfect; especially after such an interval. One chief cause of its preservation was undoubtedly the fact of Mr. Hill's Secretary, Mr. John Chetwynd, afterwards the second Viscount Chetwynd, of Ingestrie, Co: Stafford, copying a large portion of it. But for this circumstance it must have been far less perfect, some of the originals being lost, and others considerably damaged by damp and other causes. That portion thus copied was afterwards inspected by Mr. Hill, as, in different places of the copyings, corrections appear by Mr. Hill himself. In respect to his own letters, in some instances the first whole drafts remain in his own hand-writing: in other instances part is by himself, and part in the hand-writing of Mr. Chetwynd. These Manuscripts were afterwards bound in two volumes, in Mr. Hill's life-time, as appears by his hand-writing on the parchment covers. They have, however, a further verification, as numbers of the original letters still remain, incontrovertibly proving the genuineness of the copies. In every instance where the original documents have been found, they have been printed from: in all other instances the manuscript volumes have been substituted. This may be easily distinguished by the reader from the subscription to the letter. Wherever the subscription is in full the original has been found: when the letter concludes, "I am, &c." it has been taken from Mr. Chetwynd's, or Mr. Hill's, copy.

It should be mentioned also that parts of some letters, and, in other instances, whole letters, were written in cipher. The Editor has printed these portions within inverted commas.

The first instance of this commences at page 69. No letter has been found undeciphered, except one by the Duke of Vendôme, probably an intercepted one; it is, however, much damaged. These letters Mr. Chetwynd copied out fairly after having deciphered them, and many of the originals still remain with the words in English above the ciphers. A specimen is given in Appendix K. But for this care, probably many of the letters would never have been made out; no key having been found. The copying, however, of the whole correspondence was never finished; and a large quantity of matter has been introduced by the Editor, of which no copy was made:—matter which he thought too important to History to omit. In the Appendices will be found a series of letters from the Duke of Shrewsbury to Mr. Hill; the Treaties with the Duke of Savoy, A. D. 1690 and 1704, which have so important a bearing on the case of the Vaudois; the Edict for their re-establishment in 1694; and many letters and documents (besides those interspersed through the body of the work) in immediate connection with that interesting people, manifesting the sympathy which England has felt for them in their distresses, and the aid which she has afforded; shewing also that Mr. Hill was a sincere friend to the Vaudois, and an ardent supporter of their cause. The Editor much regrets the plan of printing the correspondence as adopted for the first 120 pages of the work; but the arrangement was caused by a wish to bring the whole within the compass of a single volume; and though, from the additions which have been made beyond the Editor's first intention, it is necessarily divided into two, yet the pages have been left to run on for the convenience of those who may wish to bind the work in one volume. This, from the nature of the work frequently requiring a reference from one part to the other, would be better, where persons did not object to a bulky volume.

Having entered into these particulars the Editor must again lament his inability to give, at present, anything even like an outline of the life of Mr. Hill. From the period of

his birth, which took place at Hawkstone, March 23rd, 1654, to the year 1692, there appears no trace of the course which he pursued, or of how his life was spent. During this interval the Editor only knows that he was educated at Shrewsbury school, and that he afterwards graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge, of which he became a Fellow. To this College he was so much attached that he left it the Advowsons of several Livings. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society; an L.L.D. of Oxford; and a Fellow of Eton College: which Fellowship he retained till his death. Some of his official appointments, &c., are alluded to in the following Inscription, on his Monument in Hodnet church, Shropshire:—

Subtus,

Inter Avos, et Proavos, jacet Richardus Hill, de Hawkstone, filius, nepos, abnepos, frater, et avunculus Rolandorum, notus in suos animi paterni: qui per novem annos Regis Gulielmi quæstor in Belgico, et ad plures Principes eodem tempore Ablegatus Extraordinarius, idem domum reversus Commissionarius fuit Regii Thesauri usque ad obitum magni istius Regis: sub initium vero Annæ unus e quatuor Consiliariis â Serenissimo Principe Georgio Daniæ pro rebus Admiralitatis constitutus, sedulam illis navabat operam, donec ab augustissimâ Reginâ, ultra Alpes cum plenâ potestate missus Ablegatus Extraordinarius ad omnes Italiæ Principes præter Romanum Pontificem, cum Victore Amedeo, Duce Subaudiæ, postea Rege Siciliæ[1] magni et invicti animi Principe, fœdus felicissimum fecerit.

Hic tandem spe resurgendi requiescit,
Militiæ fessus et viarum.

Hoc sibi Monumentum F: A. D. M.DCCXXVI. Ætat: suæ LXXII.

Vixi, et quem dederat cursum Deus ipse peregi.

[1] It is singular that no allusion is made to the Duke of Savoy being afterwards King of Sardinia, as he became in 1718.

The following translation of the above was found by the Editor among Mr. Hill's papers:—

"Here, interred amongst his Ancestors, lies Richard Hill, of Hawkstone, in the County of Salop, the Son, Grandson, Great Grandson, Brother, and Uncle of the Rowlands: known amongst his relations for his paternal care: who, for nine years, was Paymaster-General to the Army in Flanders, under King William, and at the same time Envoy Extraordinary to many Princes: at last returning home he was made one of the Lords of the Treasury, till the death of that great King: but about the beginning of the Queen's Reign he was constituted one of the four Privy Counsellors to Prince George, of Denmark, all which posts he diligently discharged, till, at last, by that Great Queen, he was sent Envoy Extraordinary with full power to all the Princes in Italy, except the Pope. He made a most happy Peace with Victor Amedeus, Duke of Savoy, afterwards King of Sicily, a Prince of invincible courage.

Here at last, in the hope of rising again, he resteth,
Being tired with war and travel.

He caused this Monument to be erected Anno Domini 1726, in the 72nd year of his age.

I've lived, and served the Lord's anointed,
As 'twas to me by God appointed."

On his Coffin-plate was inscribed the following in English: [1]—

"The [Right] Honourable Richard Hill, of Hawkstone, in the county of Salop, was, in the Reign of King William, Envoy to the Elector of Bavaria at Brussels, and to several other Princes; one of the Lords of the Treasury: in the Reign of Queen Anne, one of the Council to Prince George, Lord High Admiral, and Envoy to the Duke of Savoy, and all the Princes and States of Italy. Died 11th June, 1727, aged 73."

[1] This statement was also found among Mr. Hill's papers.

With regard to the contents of this work, generally, the Editor entertains a sanguine expectation, that it will be found to be abundant in matters of no common interest. To those who are fond of investigating the secrets of diplomacy, and for whom the mysteries of despotic Courts and Cabinets, and scenes in Camps, and military movements, have charms, Mr. Hill's correspondence will afford a rich regale,—for his revelations are as extraordinary as his anecdotes are characteristic and amusing. His letters, detailing the success of his negociations in behalf of the Vaudois, cannot but be read with peculiar interest at this crisis; when the rights and liberties of the Vaudois are again in jeopardy, and when motions in Parliament, Memorials to Secretaries of State, and efforts of Committees,[1] are employed to draw attention

[1] *Copy of the Memorial addressed to the Earl of Aberdeen, her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.*

Winchester House, St. James's Square, April 9, 1842.

My Lord,

We, the undersigned, Members of the London Committee, instituted in 1825, for the relief of the Vaudois of Piedmont, earnestly request your Lordship to submit to Her Majesty the Queen, our humble entreaty that Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to intercede in behalf of that ancient community with their Sovereign the King of Sardinia. The sufferings of the Vaudois have often excited the sympathy of this nation, and our Sovereigns have from time to time been pleased to exercise their beneficent offices, when the privileges and rights of the Waldensian Church have been threatened, and this they have done, not only out of compassion for the afflicted, but in virtue of treaties which give to England the right of intervention for the protection of the Vaudois.

Among other grievances, it has been represented to us, that the Vaudois have now to complain, that children are taken from their parents by the Priests and Local Authorities, when one of the parents is said to be a Roman Catholic, under the pretence of their being illegitimate; that their Religious Services are interrupted; that their intercourse and traffic with their fellow-countrymen, beyond certain limits, are placed under grievous restrictions; that some of them are deprived of the means of subsistence, being forbidden to purchase, to farm or to cultivate lands, except within boundaries too narrow for their population; and that others, to their great disadvantage and detriment, have been ordered to sell property, which they have legally acquired beyond the territories to which they are confined.

If these alleged severities were inflicted on the Vaudois for acts of turbulence, or dangerous fanaticism, we should not presume to entreat Her Majesty's gracious interposition, but it does not appear that any-

to the Treaties on which the security of the Waldensian Church depends. The Secret Article of that particular Treaty, on which hinges the whole question of England's right to interpose in behalf of the Vaudois, and all the nice points connected with it,—the price in money which was paid for it,—the difficulties which Mr. Hill had to encounter before he could get it irrevocably signed, and sealed,—the clauses on which he insisted with the pertinacity of a States-

thing can be laid to their charge, except the profession of a religion differing from that of the Roman Catholic Church, and similar in many particulars of faith and discipline to the Reformed Churches in Europe.

Believing, therefore, that the measures adopted in regard to this suffering community, are at variance equally with the principles of Christianity, and with the eternal Laws of Justice; that they are at variance, likewise, with the treaties which unite the British and Sardinian Governments; and also with the present understanding, sanctioned by the Treaties of 1814, which exists between civilized States, "to terminate the long agitation and sufferings of mankind" by a general improvement of the social system: we earnestly hope that your Lordship will receive Her Majesty's gracious commands to cause due enquiry to be made, and if necessary to mediate with Her Majesty's august ally the King of Sardinia, and to remonstrate against that treatment of the Vaudois with regard to civil disabilities and penalties, on account of their Religion, which is likely, by embittering, or perhaps by engendering, animosities between Protestants and Roman Catholics, to bring disgrace on the Holy Cause of Christianity. We are the more anxious to bring this subject before your Lordship, from our conviction that the present vexations of this people are not inflicted upon them with the entire consent of their Sovereign, for it is but justice to say, that ever since this Committee have taken an active interest in their behalf, we have had repeated proofs of the favourable disposition of His Sardinian Majesty towards them; and we are confident that his own feelings of justice and benevolence, if unbiassed by the misrepresentations of their enemies, would ensure to them His Majesty's protection and favour, since all the records of their history for more than a century prove them to have been a faithful and loyal people.

(Signed) W. Cantuar.
C. J. London.
C. R. Winton.
Geo. H. Rose.
Rob. H. Inglis.
W. R. Hamilton.
William Cotton.
T. Dyke Acland.
W. S. Gilly.

man, who foresaw that the Treaty would be evaded if a loop-hole should be left, and was resolved to meet the shifts and doubles to which Victor Amedée had recourse to escape from the obligations of a compact, bought with English gold, and ratified by stipulations with the Emperor of Germany; —these form a remarkable feature in this valuable documentary collection. Mr. Hill was instructed by the English Government to "*give his best assistance to the Vaudois, and other Protestants yet remaining within the dominions of that Duke, (of Savoy,) and to let them know his readiness to intercede for them, and obtain in their behalf such ease and favour as they shall reasonably desire,*" and "*very earnestly to press the Duke to revoke all such Edicts as have been lately made against them, and to recall all such as are departed or fled out of his dominions.*"[1] And he faithfully discharged this duty to his country, and to the sacred cause of Religion.

When Mr. Hill received his directions on setting out upon his mission, he was told, "We shall expect from you a perfect and ample narrative of what shall have happened in that Court during your ministry there, together with all such observations as you shall have been able to make, which may contribute to inform us of the state of that government." His despatches were accordingly enriched with racy observations, which enliven it from beginning to end; and his biographical sketches of Victor Amedée, Duke of Savoy, and first King of Sardinia, throw considerable light on the political History of that Sovereign, whose bad faith in the Cabinet was as notorious as his courage in the field, and who exhibited, throughout the whole course of a long reign, the very reverse of the maxim of Francis the First: 'Honour should be found in Kings if nowhere else on earth.'

Hawkstone,
January 21st, 1845.

[1] See Page 4.

A: Vander Meer

Godolphin

Ch: Hardonnell

Hu: Mackworth

Theod: Janssen

Hen: Newton

Edward Southwell

J: Tucker.

Jo: Methuen

Al: Stanhope

yourmost faithful
& most humble servant
Ric Harley

Your most Foythfull
humble Ser vant
Wm Aglionby

y most faithfull
humble servant
C Hedges

Your Most obliged &
most Faithfull Servt
J. Shetwynd

the Ladys of Rome are so stiff &
formall that a little good breeding is to
be learnt amongst them; The true chara-
ter of this City being, Superstion and
bigottry, without devotion; formality &
Ceremony without breeding. I am

Sir

Your most faithfull
and humble Servant
Shrewsbury

God send thy vision bee more reall
than thee other Jorw^ch you seem to Condemn
mee so much, but you must allow, that
view is not altogether so remote as it
appeard to bee in ye beginning of this
Summer;

yr most faithfull
humble Servt God Sphinx

Henry Arnaud pasteur des Vaudois.

Bernard Pahier pasteur
et moderateur

J. Pahier pasteur de
l'Egle de Pramol.

David Leger Pasteur vaudois et
moderateur.

Guillaume Malanot Past. vaudois
et moderateur Adjoint.

Isaac Senebier Genevois Pasteur
de l'Eglise de la Tour Vallée de Luzerne

Joseph Decoppet Suisse Pasteur de Rglise
de St. Jean Vallée de Luzerne

Jean Signoret

P. Reinaudin Pasteur et Moderateur

C. Appia Pasteur & Adjoint

P. Appia Pasteur et Secretaire du Synode

C. Bastie Pasteur à La Tour —

J. Bastie Pasteur au Villar.

J. Vinc. Arnaud Pasteur à Angrogne.

David Leger Pasteur et Moderateur.

Guill.me Malanot Past.r et Mod. Adjoint.

C. Bastie Pasteur et Moderateur

P. Reinaudin Pasteur & Moder. ajoint

C. Appia Pasteur & Secretaire —

Gagnon pasteur vaud.

D. Jordan past. vaud.

Imoutous pasteur
vaudois.

Jean Begaglee

John Olmeas

P. Reinaudin Pasteur de l'Eglise de Boby
C. Bastie Pasteur de Eglise de la Tour
C Appia Pasteur de l'Eglise de S.t Jean
L Bertin Past.r de l'Eglise de Roras.
Jaques Leger Pasteur de l'eglise de villyeiche
J. Jahier Pasteur à Angrogne
P. Appia Past.r de l'Eglise de Rocheplate et Prarustin.
J. Bastie Pasteur de Léglise du villar
J. Malanot Pasteur de Pramol & Saint Germain.
L. Loyd et Past.r de l'Eglise des Prals
Ph: Forneron Prop.t à Manielle & Macel
Jean pellen Maistre decolle en Roras

Daniel Bleynat maistre decholle de S.t Germain
Jacob Lerron Maitre decole de Pramol.
Paul Martine Maitre d'ecole à Boby
Barthelemi Appia Regent a S.t Jean
Joseph Reinaudin Regent de Prarustin.
Estienne Bergoin maistre d'Ecole au villar
Michel Puy m.tre d'ecole à Angrogne
J. P. Pogneng m.tre d'ecole à la Tour
David Ostane maitre d'Ecole de ville leche
Jean Bertalot maitre d'ecole des Prals.

I pray God send us good newes of
Adm.ll Callembergh, for he has had a terrible fight of it;
I am w.th most sincere respect & friendsp.,
S.r Yo.r most Obedient humble Serv.t,
G. Rooke. (6)

This is but a little dayes,
but I hope it will in some sort
refresh those poor people.
I am with all my heart, yo.r &c. Carolus

I am come to y end of my paper & I am sure
you can think of Plys & many other things better than
myself. I am most truely

Yr most humble Obedt Servant
Nottingham

I am with much truth
Sr
Your most obedient
humble Servant
Marlborough

William R.

Richd. Hill

Ma Soeur

Votre affectionnee Soeur

Anne R

Emo Serrello

Charles

J. Gmede

Le Duc de Marlborough

Anne (Queen of Sardinia)

Hans Hamilton

Raby

Cavallie

Rolant

Hotard

De La Tour

Delescheraine

Constantin

Excel^t. Anomaz

Matthias Storck
Cancellarius Isenburgicus
et Curator Scholae.

Conradus Bröckenius,
Pastor Aulicus et Curator
Scholae.

G. Stepney

Wm Lowndes.

Martin :/.

W Worcester

CONTENTS.

ERRATA.

Page 682, line 2: for *the Inquisition* read *not the Inquisition.*
Page 752, line 9 from the bottom: for *time* read *mind.*

CREDENTIALS OF MR. HILL.

ANNA, Dei Gratiâ, Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ Regina, Fidei Defensor &c.: Omnibus et Singulis ad quos præsentes literæ pervenerint, Salutem. Cum eo præcipue consilia nostra omnia tendant, ut publicæ totius Europæ saluti consulatur, eumque in finem maxime intersit, ut Fœdus arctioris necessitudinis et intimioris amicitiæ inter nos et serenissimum Principem Dominum Victorem Amadeum, Ducem Sabaudiæ, Principem Pedemontanum, Marchionem Salussæ, Cenæ, Comitem Genevæ, Dominum Vercellæ, fratrem, consanguineum, et amicum nostrum charissimum quamprimum ineatur et concludatur. Cumque opera viri cujusdam in arduis negotiis versati ad opus tam egregium uti necesse fuerit: Sciatis igitur quod nos fide, industriâ, experientiâ, et prudentiâ fidelis et dilecti nostri Richardi Hill, Armigeri, Ablegati nostri Extraordinarii ad predictum serenissimum Principem plurimum confisæ, eundem nominavimus, fecimus, et constituimus, ac per præsentes nominamus, facimus, et constituimus nostrum verum, certum, et indubitatum Procuratorem, Commissarium, et Plenipotentiarium: Dantes eidem et concedentes omnem et omnimodam facultatem, potestatem, et authoritatem, nec non mandatum generale pariter ac speciale pro nobis et nostro nomine cum præfato serenissimo Principe, Duce Sabaudiæ, ejusdemve Ministro sive Ministris, pleno etiam mandato munito vel munitis, super omnia et singula quæ ad ejusmodi Fœdus arctioris necessitudinis et intimioris amicitiæ inter nos et supra memoratum serenissimum Principem ineundem pertinebunt, conveniendi, tractandi, et concludendi, quæque ita conventa et conclusa erunt nostro nomine subsignandi, mutuoque extradendi, reliquaque omnia, quæ in eum finem factu necessaria erunt et opportuna, præstandi perficiendique, tam amplis modo et formâ ac nosmet ipsæ si interessemus faecre et præstare possemus: Spondentes, et in verbo Regio promittentes nos quæcunque a dicto nostro Plenipotentiario vi præsentium concludi contigerit, rata ea omnia grata et accepta omni me-

liori modo habituras, et quicquid nomine nostro promissum fuerit, sancte et inviolabiliter observaturas, et observari curaturas. In cujus rei majorem fidem et testimonium hasce literas, manu nostrâ Regiâ signatas, magno nostro Angliæ sigillo communiri fecimus. Quæ dabantur in Arce nostrâ Regiâ Windesoriensi, die 26° Julii Anno Domini 1703, Regnique nostri secundo.

ANNA R.

ANNE R.

Instructions for our trusty and well-beloved Richard Hill, Esqre whom we have appointed our Envoy Extraordinary to the Duke of Savoy. Given at our Court, at Windsor, the 26th day of July, 1703, in the second year of our Reign.

Having made choice of you to go in quality of our Envoy Extraordinary to the Duke of Savoy, (upon the advice we have received that the said Duke will enter into an alliance with the Emperor and other the allies, for the common safety against the encroachments of France,) we have thought fit, on this occasion, to give you the following directions.

You shall, immediately upon the receipt of these our instructions and your other despatches, repair on board the yacht appointed to carry you over to Holland; and, upon your arrival there, you shall repair to the Hague, and confer with the Pensioner about this service on which you are despatched.

You shall, in the first place, deliver to him our letter which you will herewith receive, and having given him all proper assurances of our esteem and value for him, you shall acquaint him that we have directed you to communicate to him the occasion of our sending you, that so you may understand from him his sentiments of it, and what are the intentions and resolutions of the States-General, whereby we may jointly proceed herein according to the ties and engagements between us.

You shall therefore represent it to him that we think it necessary, that the States-General should either send a minis-

ter of their own to that Duke, or empower you to act in their name, whereby we may hope for the better success in the commission we have given to you: And you shall particularly desire him to impart to you what advice or intelligence he may have received, and what he conceives may be the most proper and effectual means to attain the end we propose to ourself.

You shall take the most fitting time to represent unto him, and such others of the States as you judge proper, how prejudicial it has been to us, and even to the States themselves, as well as to the common cause, that they have not sent us their quota of ships, or that the ships sent have not come in due time for the performance of those services which have hitherto been resolved on, the particulars whereof you understand so well that we need say no more to you of it. This opportunity you may take in being the more earnest to press him, that we may not meet with the like disappointments or delay in the ships or men to be sent to Portugal, pursuant to the treaty lately concluded; which, if it should happen, may so far discourage the King of Portugal, by seeing the treaty so ill executed at the beginning, as may in a great measure render this alliance useless, and, at least, lose the advantages of it for this year, which may in a manner ruin our common reputation and credit in those parts, and render any such enterprise much more difficult, if not impracticable, the next year.

If, upon such discourse with the Pensioner or otherwise, any thing shall occur to you whereupon it may be necessary to receive our further directions, you shall for that purpose stay at the Hague till, upon an account from you of any such incidents, we shall have signified our pleasure to you; but this to be only in some very urgent matter, our intention being, and the nature of the service requiring, that you should make all haste to Turin.

You shall, upon your arrival there, inform yourself of the Emperor's minister, what has passed in his negotiation in that Court, and concert with him the measures proper for you to take, not doubting but he will freely communicate with you on this subject, since we have no other interest herein but the common good and his master's service.

You shall, as soon as you are ready for it, demand an audience of the Duke of Savoy, at which you shall deliver to

him our letters of credence, and declare unto him the great value and esteem we have for his person and friendship, and how desirous we shall always be to maintain a good correspondence with him, and embrace all opportunities to improve it, with such other expressions of our friendship for him as you shall judge proper.

You shall likewise desire an audience of the Duchess, and Duchess-dowager of Savoy, and deliver our letters to them, accompanying the same with such compliments on our part as are usual and fitting on such occasions, and particularly you shall give the Duchess the real assurances of our kindness as to one so nearly related to us in blood.[1]

You shall then acquaint the Duke, that we are ready to concur in the treaty made, or to be made by the Emperor with him, and particularly, that we will be punctual in the payment of such sums of money as are to be paid by us, pursuant to such treaty, and you may consent to the payment of such proportion thereof by us as was paid to him in the last war, and you shall sign all such instruments for our entering into the said treaty or otherwise as shall be necessary for the purposes above-mentioned, in conjunction however with the minister of the States-General, unless you are yourself empowered by them.

If the treaty concluded with the Duke by the Emperor's minister, does not extend so far as to engage him in the grand alliance, you are to use your best endeavours to persuade him to enter into it.

You are to give your best assistance to the Vaudois and other Protestants yet remaining within the dominions of that Duke, and to let them know your readiness to intercede for them, and obtain in their behalf such ease and favour as they shall reasonably desire.

You shall very earnestly press the Duke to revoke all such edicts as have been lately made against them, and to recall all such as are departed or fled out of his dominions, whether they be his own subjects or French Protestant Refugees, and to put them into arms, and encourage and assist them to march into Dauphiny to the assistance of the Cevennois, sending with them some regular troops: and you shall be earnest

[1] Anna Maria, eldest daughter of Henrietta, Duchess of Orleans, youngest daughter of King Charles I, married Victor Amadeus the second, Duke of Savoy.

with him by all other means to support and favour the Cevennois as that which may most effectually conduce to the establishing of his own safety against the exorbitant power of France, and you shall give us the earliest notice of what may be expected from the Duke of Savoy for their assistance.

You shall take care that the same honours and respects be paid to your character in all places as have been heretofore shewn to any minister, from our predecessors, of your character, or to the ministers of France, Spain, or other crowned heads; and during your stay at that Court you shall maintain a good correspondence and intercourse with the ministers of other Princes and States, our friends and allies, residing there.

You shall, upon advice with the minister of the Emperor (and of the States-General, if any such be there) take all proper measures to invite the State of Venice and the great Duke of Florence to enter into the grand alliance, or into such other alliance as may suit better with the state of their affairs, but yet attain the ends proposed by the other; and, to induce them hereunto, you shall offer our good offices with the Emperor to liquidate and ascertain all pretensions which he may have on their territories as fiefs of the empire or otherwise; and you shall also offer our guarantee (in which we doubt not but the States-General will concur) to secure them against all such encroachments, and propose to them a perpetual defensive alliance with them against any such unjust attempts against them.

You shall endeavour to prevent the remittance of money by the subjects of Genoa to the French army in Italy, and in case they continue to do so, and that the Duke of Savoy will concur in it, you may proceed even to threats of treating them as enemies.

You shall correspond with our ambassadors and ministers employed abroad in other Courts, for your better direction and information.

At your return from thence we shall expect from you a perfect and ample narrative of what shall have happened in that Court during your ministry there, with a particular account of the abilities and affections of the ministers, their interests, mutual correspondencies and differences one with another, their dispositions to war, or peace, their inclinations to foreign Princes or States, together with all such observa-

tions as you shall have been able to make, which may contribute to inform us of the state of that government.

You shall from time to time observe and follow such further directions and instructions as you shall receive from one of our principal Secretaries of State, with whom you shall likewise constantly correspond.

A. R.

ANNE R.

Additional Instructions for our trusty and well-beloved Richard Hill, Esqre whom we have appointed to be our Envoy Extraordinary to the Duke of Savoy. Given at our Court, at Windsor, the 26th day of July, 1703, in the second year of our Reign.

The ambassador of our good brother the king of Prussia, residing with us, having presented a memorial to us, praying our good offices that the King, his master, may be admitted as heir to the county of Neufchatel upon the death of the Duchess of Nemours; we, being willing upon all occasions to give that King the marks of our friendship to him, have thought fit hereby to direct you, that you do in our name desire the Duke of Savoy to support the said King in his pretensions, and, as often as you have an opportunity, you are to do him all good offices herein.

A. R.

ANNE R.

Private Instructions to our trusty and well-beloved Richard Hill, Esqre whom we have appointed to be our Envoy Extraordinary to the Duke of Savoy. Given at our Court, at Windsor, the 26th day of July, 1703, in the second year of our Reign.

You shall press the Duke of Savoy to embark on board our fleet, sent to the Mediterranean, five or six thou-

sand men, who may attempt Toulon and Marseilles by land at the same time that our fleet shall attempt those places by sea; promising him in all events the expense of his troops, and in case of success fifty thousand pounds.

A. R.

Anna, Dei Gratiâ, Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ Regina, Fidei Defensor, &c.: Serenissimo Principi Domino Victori Amadeo, Duci Sabaudiæ, Principi Pedemontano, Marchioni Salussæ, Cenæ, Comiti Genevæ, Domino Vercellæ, fratri, consanguineo, et amico charissimo nostro, Salutem. Serenissime Princeps, frater, consanguinee, et amice charissime: Cum nihil nobis magis cordi sit quam ut amicitia ea quæ nobis cum Celsitudine vestrâ intercedit, non solum illibata conservetur, sed etiam augeatur, præsensque Europæ status postulare videatur, ut eæ rationes ineantur, quibus communi ejus saluti consulatur, quod non minus in utilitates et commoda Celsitudinis vestræ quam securitatem cedet: Visum nobis est eum in finem nobilem nobis dilectum et fidelem Richardum Hill, Armigerum, de Hawkstone et de Atcham, &c., Consiliarium serenissimi Principis Georgii de Daniâ, mariti nostri præcharissimi, et summi Angliæ, Irelandiæ, &c., Ammirallis, Celsitudini vestræ extra ordinem ablegare, utpote qui in maximi momenti negotiis integre fideliterque semper versatus sit, et in Celsitudinis vestræ Aulâ eodem charactere insignitus fuerit: Celsitudinem itaque vestram amicissime rogamus, ut plenam ei fidem habere velit in iis omnibus quæ nostro nomine dicturus est; maxime vero cum sinceræ nostræ erga ipsam amicitiæ certiorem reddet, cujus paratæ semper erimus meliora quævis præbere documenta. Quod superest, Celsitudinem vestram Dei optimi maximi tutelæ curæque ex animo commendamus. Dabantur in Arce nostrâ Regiâ Windesoriensi, die 26° Julii Anno Domini 1703, Regnique nostri secundo.

Celsitudinis vestræ

Bona soror, consanguinea, et amica,

The Queen's Letter to the Duke of Savoy.

ANNA R

Windsor, July 26th, 1703.

Having thought fit to send the bearer, Richard Hill, Esqre to the Duke of Savoy,[1] in quality of my Envoy Extraordinary, that he may concur on my part in the treaty between the Emperor and that Duke, I have directed him to take the Hague in his way, that he may understand your sense of this matter, and by your means know what are the thoughts of others also of the States-General, whose advice in a matter of this great importance to our common interest will be very acceptable to us. We have directed him likewise to discourse with you of some other matters, particularly what relates to sea-affairs, wherein we desire you will give him credit, and that assistance which the case shall require, having no other interest herein but the promoting of the public good, and the welfare of the States. This is what you may always depend upon from

Your affectionate friend,

The Queen's Letter to the Pensioner.[2]

ANNE R.

'A Whitehall, ce 29e Juillet, 1703.

Ma Sœur, Ayant commandé au Sieur Hill de se rendre incessamment auprès de mon Frère, le Duc de Savoye, en qualité de mon Envoyé Extraordinaire, Je n'ay pas voulu le laisser partir, sans vous témoigner par celle-ci la sincère amitié et affection que je vous porte, et la joie avec laquelle je me serviray de toutes les occasions pour vous en donner des marques. C'est ce dont j'ay chargé expressement mon dit

[1] Afterward King of Sicily; then, on a re-arrangement in 1718, first King of Sardinia.

[2] The incumbent of the important office styled Pensioner of Holland, was a species of executive functionary who held the place of president in all the assemblies of the province, proposed all measures, and collected and declared the decisions of the States. By virtue of his office, he always acted as deputy in the States-General. The Pensioner at this time was C. A. Heinsius, grandson of Daniel Heinsius, whom Vossius called "The ornament of the Muses and the Graces," and son of Nicholas Heinsius, whose excellence as a Latin poet gained him the appellation of "The Swan of Holland."

Envoyé de vous assurer, auquel je vous prie d'ajouter entière créance, en tout ce qu'il vous dira de ma part, et d'être persuadée que je suis, avec une estime très particulière,

Ma Sœur,

Votre affectionnée Sœur,

A La Duchesse de Savoye. ANNE R.

A. Whitehall, ce 29e Juillet, 1703.

Ma Sœur, Je n'ay pas voulu dépêcher le Sieur Hill à mon Frère, le Duc de Savoye, en qualité de mon Envoyé Extraordinaire, sans prendre cette occasion de vous marquer la considération particulière, et l'amitié que j'ay pour vous, dont je seray bien aise de rencontrer les moyens de vous assurer par les effets, comme mon dit Envoyé vous dira plus amplement de bouche selon les ordres que je luy en ay donnés, auquel je vous prie d'ajouter entière créance sur ce sujet, et de croire que je suis,

Ma Sœur,

Votre affectionnée Sœur,

A La Duchesse-Douairière de Savoye. ANNE R.

Whitehall, 29th July, 1703.

Sir,

You having a letter from the Earl of Nottingham [1] to the Pensioner of Holland, it is thought a sufficient credential for any thing you have to propose to him for her Majesty's service; and, therefore, it is her Majesty's pleasure that I should only acquaint you with her commands as to the dispute concerning the assistance to be given to the King of Portugal, according to the treaty with that prince, which is, that if the States peremptorily insist not to advance any part of the charge for the Emperor's share of troops, and should not be satisfied with her Majesty's resolution in that matter, of which you will have a full account by the copies of the letters and answers enclosed, you are in that case, at the last, and rather than the treaty with Portugal

[1] One of Queen Anne's principal Secretaries of State.

and the advantages of it should be lost, and not otherwise, to propose to the Pensioner this expedient, that her Majesty will make up the other moiety of troops which the Emperor ought to send, out of her troops that are now in the States' service, and that there is no other method that she can propose or think of, without increasing the charges of the kingdom, which she thinks at this juncture she cannot do, or if she could she is of opinion it is not for the service of the confederates that it should be done. I am,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To the Honourable
Richard Hill, Esquire.

C. HEDGES. [1]

Vienna, 28th July, 1703.

This morning I received in cipher from Count D'Aversberg [2] what follows:—

Turin, 14e Juillet, 1703.

"Je suis arrivé ici depuis le 12e avec bien de la peine; Je suis logé chez le Marquis de Prié [3] avec un secret, et une precaution inconcevable; car si mon séjour se decouvroit, il en pourroit bien suivre le malheur de la maison, et de la personne du Marquis, qui est porté d'une chaleur fort solide à l'accommodement de notre affaire. Hier le Duc de Savoye fut me trouver, il vint seul à onze heures du soir, et il m'est paru si bien porté pour entrer en l'alliance que j'espére de venir à bout de mon affaire en peu de tems, quelques difficultéz qu'il a proposées. Ce sont la guarantie des Anglois et Hollandois, et cela peut-être un effet de ce projet de paix, que l'on dit avoir été fait en Hollande par le ministre de Suede."

I have set him right in this particular by the advices I had from Mr. Stanhope [4] in April last, that Monsieur Palm-

[1] Sir Charles Hedges, Knt., one of Queen Anne's principal Secretaries of State.

[2] Minister from the Court of Vienna to the Duke of Savoy.

[3] He had been ambassador from the Duke of Savoy at Vienna.

[4] The Honourable Alexander Stanhope, Envoy Extraordinary from

quist, when he was examined if ever he had made any such overtures, had absolutely denied it. You will be pleased to observe by this accident the necessity there is of not allowing that gentleman to be too busy in matters that do not belong to him.

"La seconde est la démolition des Places;" whereby he means Alexandria and Valence: about two months ago he seemed contented to have them dismantled, and now starts new conditions, which will hardly be granted, especially as to the last place.

"La 3.me pour le tems de se déclarer. Je me flate de vuider le tout favourablement, puisque la distinction que le Duc fait du Marquis d'Ailleurs nommé pour mon Commissaire sur l'eclaircissement de ces points, me fait espérer toute sorte de facilité dans cette affaire.

"Il faut donc que vous agissiez avec votre zèle en tout ce qui regarde la guarantie et les subsides, que le Duc de Savoye ne prétend qu'après qu'il aura tiré l'epée contre la France."

Upon these points I do not question but her Majesty will declare her pleasure by Mr. Hill without delay, or perhaps (to gain time) by Mr. Aglionby, [1] who is so near at hand.

"Le Duc de Savoye est porté d'une passion fort violente à se mettre pour toujours entre les bras de l'Empereur. Donnez la main de votre côté auprès de la Reine, et soyez persuadée que cette union aura plus de suite et de conséquence pour le bien public, que l'on ne sçaura l'imaginer."

I have given you, word for word, all he has hitherto imparted to me, and, after having conferred my letter with one which Prince Eugene has likewise received, I find both our advices exactly the same. You shall be duly informed according as he advances, and by an express when I have any thing that deserves it. I am, &c.

G. STEPNEY. [2]

This letter was communicated to Mr. Hill, by Mr. Secretary Hedges.

the British Court to the States of Holland. He was only son to Philip, first Earl of Chesterfield, by his second wife Anne, daughter to Sir John Packington, Knight, and father of James, Earl Stanhope.

[1] The British Envoy Extraordinary to the Cantons of Switzerland.

[2] British minister at Vienna; also an English Poet. He died in 1707: his remains were honourably interred in Westminster Abbey, where a monument was erected to his memory.

Vienna, 15th August, 1703.

Sir,

Mr. Secretary Hedges in his last letter to me, of the 16th of July, having acquainted me that your instructions were that day approved, and that there were thoughts of sending you forthwith into Holland, I suppose this may find you arrived there. I am to tell you in all secrecy that Count D'Aversberg concluded on the 26th the most material points of his negotiation with the Duke of Savoy, which he thought might be digested into form on the 3rd instant, and, by his private letters to his relations, I perceive he hopes to be here in person by the 17th instant.

On the 21st past I gave him notice of your being appointed to attend the Duke of Savoy, which piece of news H. R. H. will have received at the same time from Holland, if he has any correspondencies there, or receives the gazettes; for all those prints named you within three or four days after her Majesty. By the end of this week I shall have an answer either by letter from Count D'Aversberg, or by word of mouth, whether the Duke of Savoy will be satisfied that you proceed directly to Turin. I cannot tell what encouragement you may have had immediately from thence; but till you are assured one way or another that your appearance there may be seasonable, I am of opinion you ought to stop short wherever this letter meets you; for, by your proceeding towards Turin at a venture, you may chance to make more haste than good speed; the secret (which H. R. H. so strictly recommends) will thereby be made more and more public, to the Duke's great inconvenience and prejudice; and the service will not be one moment advanced by your running yourself out of breath; since I do not find, by Count D'Aversberg's last letter to me, nor by any of his former, that either the little President de la Tour,[1] Count Maffei,[2] or any other of your friends or acquaintances, can be of any use to you in the present conjuncture, since none of them have been made privy to the matter, which the Duke has hitherto thought fit to transact by himself, with the assistance only of the Marquis de Prié, (who was formerly his ambassador here,) who has treated pri-

[1] A minister of the Duke of Savoy. On Mr. Hill's former visit to Turin he was chief Secretary of War to that Prince.

[2] A minister of the Duke of Savoy, and afterwards Envoy Extraordinary from that Prince to the British Court.

vately with Count D'Aversberg, whom he has kept incognito (as if he was his prisoner) at a country house he has, called Castiglion, on the Po, about two miles from Turin, where the Duke has sometimes visited him in disguise, pretending for that time of his disappearing from Turin, to have been diverting himself at the Vénerie.

By the instructions you have received you are the best judge what measures you ought to take; but if they contain no other business than barely to engage H. R. H. in the alliance, and there be no other grounds for your mission than what her Majesty may have received by my relations of that matter, I think I should lead you out of your way if I did not immediately advise you that the scene is shifted, and the negotiation transferred hither by Count D'Aversberg's return: so that if you have any full powers from her Majesty and the States-General, to grant the vast subsidies which H. R. H. demands, I should think you ought to come directly hither, where Count D'Aversberg may inform you at large what steps he has made; and when the Emperor shall have consented to ratify his part of the treaty, and her Majesty and the States-General shall have declared by you how far they are willing to contribute, it will then be natural for you to proceed to Turin, and perhaps Count D'Aversberg may be ordered to return with you, to be present when the Duke casts off the mask, which I scarce believe will happen before the month of November, when the treaty he has with the two crowns will be expired. I suppose some time will be spent in deliberations both in England and Holland, whether the Duke's alliance, at the end of this summer, will be worth the price he sets upon it; or whether her Majesty and the States-General will be able to allow so large subsidies after the vast expense they are to be at with the Portugal treaty. Your own prudence will dictate to you, that you ought not to stir from the Hague till you are instructed perfectly in this point, and till the proportion to be allowed by each party be ascertained, to avoid all disputes hereafter about the repartition, as has unluckily happened about the one-third, now the alliance of Portugal comes to be put in execution. As I learn any thing more of Count D'Aversberg you shall be duly informed, under cover to Mr. Stanhope, in the same manner as I send this, and you may be assured nothing shall be wanting in me towards promoting the public service in the business you are

designed for, and giving you as to your own particular all other proofs of my being,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. STEPNEY.

Vienna, 18th August, 1703.

Sir,

I was in hopes of telling you by this post something positive of Count D'Aversberg's arrival here, or of his having made an end of his business; but it seems he has not yet any fast hold of Proteus, as you will see by a letter I received from him this morning, of the 4th instant, as follows:—

"Je ne doute pas que vous serez étonné de recevoir encore une lettre de moy d'ici, après ce que je vous ai écrit par la poste passée; mais sçachez Monsieur que le Duc de Savoye avoit bien fait coucher par écrit les articles concertés, mais il ne les a pas encore revus, ni me les a pas communiques demandant encore (1) *un delai de deux jours.* Nous verrons ce qu'il en arrivera; cependant (2) *il aura de la peine à échapper*, et j'espére qu'en attendant vous aurez écrit pour votre (3) *plein pouvoir.* Pour que vous les puissiez aussi achever de votre côté; dès qu'on aura franchis le pas; l'on en tirera de grands profits.

(1). Such delays are ill symptoms in a Prince of his slippery temper.

(2). The Count, in his last letter to me, said—J'ay pris toutes les seuretéz que l'on puisse prendre—without explaining what those *seuretéz* were: I wish he does not flatter himself too much.

(3). I do not think any full powers necessary for me, or any body else. It will be sufficient if her Majesty and the States-General, either by letter or any declaration signed or sealed by them, which may serve both for full powers and ratification at the same time. [1]

[1] This observation of Mr. Stepney is evidently imperfect; it is printed verbatim from the copy sent to Mr. Hill. Mr. Hill's Secretary, Mr. J. Chetwynd, also re-copied it in the same way without correction.

(4). That the Duke should have thought of; and it was supposed he had found out some expedient or stratagem to that purpose, before he made his first overtures hither. It is his concern to get himself out of the briers as well as he can.

(5). Nobody is more answerable for that indiscretion than the Count himself.

(6). I am glad I bethought myself better, and did not despatch my courier upon the first assurances the Count gave me.

(7). That piece of news I can hardly believe.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Received by Mr. Hill, at the Hague, 29th Aug. 1703.

"Je vois bien que l'on est un peu embarrassé pour deux raisons; l'une est l'inaction du Prince Louis; je me flate que cet embarras sera bien tôt fini: l'autre est (4) *comment il peut retirer ses troupes* de l'armée de France, parce-qu'on lui écrit de tout côté que (5) *son traité est publique:* qu'il va faire avec les alliéz. Cependant ne vous embarrassez point à votre tour, (6) *si vous avez dépêché votre homme que vous teniez alerte.*

"On a eu avis de bon lieu; que comme la France est persuadée que la Cour Imperiale pourroit encore prendre la resolution d' envoyer l' Archiduc par Angleterre en Portugal, que (7) *tous les vaisseaux armés qui se trouvent présentement dans la Méditerranée,* doivent passer dans l' Océan pour disputer le passage au dit Archiduc." I am, &c.

G. STEPNEY.

Bath, August 19th, 1703.

Sir,

I have the favour of yours (of the) 10th, and 13th instant, from the Hague, and am sorry you find so little hopes of success in your commissions. I do not find any disposition here to send you any new orders for the Pensioner, neither can I hope that greater advances should be made on this side; since I am afraid it would do neither the States

nor us any service when we meet at Westminster next winter. I am very much obliged to you for remembering my sons, and am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

The Queen came hither this evening in very good health.

Whitehall, August 20th, 1703.

Sir,

I have received yours of the $\frac{13}{24}$th. The Pensioner's answer to you about the 36 ships will be much more useful than it is satisfactory; for it will be remembered in settling the quota next year, and will teach us how to fix the agreement, though even then I shall much doubt of their performance; but it is wonderful, that they can insist upon the proportion of 5 to 3 for Portugal, and forget the Mediterranean squadron. The committee have insisted with Vryberge [1] on the remaining 24, or 22 at least; because we have told him of no more than 10, and he, from the States, proposed that the Portugal squadron should consist of 32: and though, in truth, we design 15, yet you should, conformably to the proceedings of the committee press for 22, that you may get as near that number as is possible; for you know, that we can employ our ships, if the Dutch should send so many, as that all our 15 should not be needful for Portugal. And I believe we shall have ours ready before the troops can come from Holland, though we shall send the transport-ships to Williamstadt in six days.

I shall stay for the Pensioner's answer to your expedient before I say any more of that matter; only let me tell you, that the Queen, in the great Council, resolved to supply the moiety of the Emperor's third in confidence of his promissory act for repayment, but no more; and I have this night told Vryberge that we neither can, nor dare do more; and as it is impossible for the Emperor to do any thing towards his part, so it will be very unreasonable to expect any abatement

[1] Envoy Extraordinary to the British Court from the States-General. He died 1711, at Chelsea, of consumption.

by Portugal; for the Envoy here told me, that he had orders not so much as to desire that the Archduke[1] should come, unless he were assured that troops and subsidies would be fully furnished. So that if the States do really value the treaty of Portugal, they must find some way to perform it; and if they were in the right that the promissory act, when obtained (as surely it can't and must not be refused), would not avail for the repayment of our expense, yet certainly it will be a foundation for a demand of some recompense by concessions advantageous to our trade, which will be more valuable to us, and will not be denied by Spain, who will be more able and willing to grant those than pay money.

I have not yet received the opinion of the Prince's Council[2] for the number of ships proper to remain in Portugal.

Mr. Aglionby says, in his letter of the 8th of August, that Count D'Aversberg tells him that the President de la Tour[3] is not privy to his negotiation, which is scarce to be believed, considering the credit he has with his master, and his partiality to the allies; and Mr. Aglionby says he has had more letters from La Tour desiring to correspond with him, of which I am willing to make this construction, that he has a mind to know from the Queen's minister, rather than from D'Aversberg, how far the Queen will contribute, and this you can tell him more authentically than Mr. Aglionby; for which reason it is thought very proper and necessary for you to proceed on your journey, and the rather, because D'Aversberg tells Mr. Aglionby that his business *commence à prendre bon train*, but that the conditions are very hard, which, nevertheless, he hopes to manage so as to gain the Duke of Savoy for ever. I am, with the greatest truth and respect,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

[1] Of Austria, afterward Charles III, King of Spain.

[2] Prince George of Denmark, the royal consort of Queen Anne, was constituted May 21, 1702, Lord High Admiral of England, and Ireland, and of all other her dominions beyond the seas. Two days afterward he appointed four individuals, of whom the Right Honourable Richard Hill, now abroad, was one, as his council as Lord High Admiral.

[3] A minister of the Duke of Savoy.

Bath, the 25th of August, 1703.

Sir,

This place has not yet had so much effect for the recovery of my health, but that I find myself obliged to make use of another hand to return you my thanks for the favour of your letter, and your observations upon the present condition and government of Holland, which, as they are certainly very true, they are also, in my opinion, so very plain that one need not be upon the place to be fully convinced of them.

I must refer you to Mr. Secretary Hedges, for what you are to do next when he shall have received the Queen's pleasure upon the subject of Mr. Stepney's letters; but it seems to me your expedition to Turin is, for the present, at an end, unless it should happen to be revived by an answer to your letter from the President de la Tour; in the mean time, as to what you write concerning your seat in the Admiralty, I shall make no other use of it, but to make your court in the right place. Such a temper and resignation being very agreeable to the nature of our Sovereign, and the more, because she has met with it so seldom in any of her subjects.

I am always, with great truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.[1]

Bath, August 25th, 1703.

Sir,

You will have heard from Mr. Stepney, that the most material points with the Duke of Savoy are concluded by Count D'Aversberg, and, he being returned to Vienna, what remains to be transacted will be transferred to that place, so that, at present, there seems to be no occasion for your proceeding to Turin; but you are to continue at the Hague, and if you have any encouragement from La Tour, or any other, to go further, you will please to give her Majesty an account,

[1] Sidney, Lord Godolphin, Lord High Treasurer of England. In 1706 he was created Viscount Rialton and Earl of Godolphin. He died in 1712.

and expect her further pleasure. In the mean time, her Majesty thinks it for her service that you use your endeavours with the States and the Pensioner, to induce them to concur with her Majesty in paying all the subsidies required by the Duke of Savoy upon his coming into the alliance. You know her Majesty has already declared she will pay $\frac{2}{3}$ of what was allowed by England and Holland in the last war, and the States are willing to pay $\frac{1}{3}$ as they then did; but the difficulty is to raise the subsidy formerly paid by Spain, which the Duke of Savoy insists to have from the maritime powers. Now her Majesty considering the consequence and great advantage of this treaty, is inclined to pay $\frac{2}{3}$ of the whole subsidies, that of Spain being included, provided the States can be brought to a concurrence, and will raise the remaining third; and Mr. Stepney will have instructions and powers to conclude and sign on those terms, if the States can be prevailed with to send orders and powers to Monsieur Bruyninx[1] to join with him as her Majesty proposes, which you are to endeavour to procure, and will be fuller instructed in by the Earl of Nottingham. I am,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Whitehall, August 27th, 1703.

Sir,

I have received yours of August $\frac{15}{26}$th, $\frac{17}{28}$th together, and immediately gave an account of them to Bath; and though I stopt the post of Tuesday in hopes of an answer by Wednesday-night, yet I received it not till very late last night, so that this comes to you by the ordinary post of this day; but I hope time enough to find you at the Hague, notwithstanding what I last writ to you to proceed on your journey, since Mr. Stepney's letter was sufficient to stop you; and I now send you her Majesty's orders for that purpose, and though you should receive an answer from the President de la Tour encouraging you to come to Turin, you are to give an account

[1] Minister from the States-General at the Court of Vienna.

of it, but expect her Majesty's orders before you leave the Hague, where you will have business even of this kind to prevail with the States to concur with her Majesty in what is required of them by the treaty with Savoy which Count D'Aversberg has concluded; but I must premise (what I doubt will be extremely difficult both in respect of the constitution of the States, and also of their present divisions) that this must be kept a secret, for so it is desired to be, for the safety of the Duke of Savoy's territories, and of his person, which must not be exposed to the rage of the French.

The two principal points which relate to the Queen and States are, that they should be guarantees of the Emperor's concessions to the Duke of Savoy, in which I presume the States will make no difficulty of joining with the Queen.

And that the Queen and States should pay 80,000 crowns per month; to commence from the time the French subsidies end (which will be in November); but of these 80 thousand crowns per month, 30 thousand crowns per month are to cease in proportion as the places yielded to Savoy shall come to be subdued, of which a just account shall be given; but the other 50 thousand crowns are to continue during the war. This is said to be the subsidy paid to Savoy in the last war by England, Holland and Spain. Of the several proportions were, as Mr. Stepney writes, England 30 thousand, Holland 20 thousand, and Spain 30 thousand crowns; but the Pensioner will be able to inform you whether this were so, for you know the books of the office do not shew it; but though the whole might be 80,000; yet the distribution I believe is not right; for if Spain paid 30,000 then our proportion being $\frac{2}{3}$ of the 50,000 remaining, we must have paid more than 30,000. But whatever it was, the subsidy now demanded is 80,000 per month; of which the Emperor can pay nothing, and the Queen is willing to pay $\frac{2}{3}$ of it, if the States will pay $\frac{1}{3}$: and to this you are to endeavour to persuade them; and as Mr. Stepney will have powers, and has already orders, to sign the treaty which Count D'Aversberg brings with him to this effect, so the States should authorize, in like manner, Monsieur Bruyninx to sign it for them; that there may be no disputes about the Emperor's part (which was that of Spain) as there has been, and is, about his part of the Portugal treaty.

There is also another sum of 100,000 crowns to be paid

him at first for his preparations, of which the Queen will also pay $\frac{2}{3}$.

If you communicate all this to the Pensioner he will best tell the proper steps you are to take in order to obtain the consent of the States, and of transacting it in the secretest manner, towards which I believe it will be some help that you have no character to the States, and so cannot present memorials in form, though the particular persons with whom you must necessarily speak will, without doubt, give credit to what you say in the Queen's name, especially of Savoy, for which all the gazettes have given you credentials.

And that you may not want business, if what I have writ be not enough, you must press the despatch of the States' quota for Portugal, and I am so sure we shall do no more than $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Emperor's part, and so apprehensive that the King of Portugal will expect the whole from the allies, that the demand of the other $\frac{1}{2}$ from the States should not be given over; but of this, and also of their ships, I can say no more than I told you in mine of the 20th, save only that the Prince's Council have told (me), that we must not expect above 3 at most to be added to the 10 designed for Portugal, which makes it necessary for the States to increase their number above 12, as you say, or 15, which Vryberge says he believes the States will send.

For the time and place of embarking our troops from Holland my last will inform you. The rendezvous will be Spithead, for thither our troops from Ireland (which with transport-ships are ready at Cork and Kinsale) will be brought.

The Prince's Council are to consider what number of ships may be properly left at Lisbon this winter, from whence they may greatly prejudice the French trade. It will not be amiss to ask the Dutch ministers what they think fit to leave there for this purpose, that we may begin to act by concert, without which it will be impossible to carry on the sea-war with advantage.

And though I have no orders to propose for the next year's service, that their quota should be 36 ships, as was projected for this year, yet upon supposition that that number may be sufficient, it would be very useful to know that we may be sure of them, and in time.

There are some trades in which the Dutch are concerned jointly with us; we and they have been put to more expense

than was needful by sending distinct convoys, and they have suffered by it in some instances considerably: if some measures of this kind could be concerted, it would be for our mutual ease and security. It is ridiculous to employ so many ships as we and they have done to watch a few pirates of Dunkirk. This service might be put into a better method; and a much less number well disposed, and under proper orders, would more effectually prevent the mischiefs from thence than has been hitherto.

I am come to the end of my paper, and I am sure you can think of these and many other things better than myself. I am, most truly,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Camp at Val Nôtre Dame, 30th August, 1703. S.N.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 25th instant, and am sorry to see you have so little hopes of success in your negotiation at the Hague. I am afraid we put greater stress on the treaty with Savoy than others do, though it is certainly that Prince's interest to come into the alliance; for it must be very uneasy, as well as unsafe, for him to have so powerful and so ambitious a neighbour, as the French are, on all sides of him. The Dutch have hitherto been very obstinate in not furnishing more than their third to the treaty with Portugal, and you will have a hard task to prevail with them to do any more. I confess I cannot think it for the service of the public, that we should send so many troops from this country; however, considering the necessity and importance of complying fully with the treaty, to give no room to the King of Portugal to fall off again, I should readily submit to the taking the other two thousand men from hence, if the States would agree to it in the manner desired, and the rather, because it will be little or no additional charge to us, but, on the contrary, a saving, if the King of Spain, or the Emperor do ever reimburse us their quota. But in this whole matter you must follow the instructions you have from England; and I can only advise, that there be no time lost in settling what-

ever is to be done. Mr. Cardonnel [1] has shewn me what you writ relating to our soldiers taken at sea, and I believe, by your good offices, they have been all exchanged, though there has not been the same care in England to secure them upon their landing, in order to their being sent to their regiments here. We have fifty odd of our troopers, taken on different occasions, now prisoners at Courtray; if you thought they would allow us seamen for them in England, I would propose the exchange. It seems you have not been made acquainted, that both the States and myself have already offered to exchange our prisoners, man for man, with the Maréchal de Villeroy; [2] but they still insist upon a general exchange, and to be accountable to us for the balance. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. MARLBOROUGH. [3]

Vienna, Sept. 1st, 1703.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 30th from London, and thank you for the notice you give me of your being ready to embark. I received advice, at the same time, of your being arrived in Holland, where I wish you all happiness in your negotiation; but I have yet no great opinion of the other affair. You will have found by my letter of the 15th past, what a creature we have to deal with, and the extract of what I have received this morning [4] will satisfy you that I judged right when I advised you not to proceed till we saw deeper into the Duke's designs, which I fear are little better than what he has been used to all his life; for if such a slight accident as Count de la Tour's is sufficient to make him play fast and loose, it will be almost impossible to catch him: however, you will do well to deliberate with the States-General towards fixing the quotas of subsidies, for it is possible we may have the Proteus still by any lucky turn of affairs, and in that case, by your ascertaining that main point, so much time will be gained in the negotiation.

[1] Adam Cardonnel, Esquire, Secretary to the Duke of Marlborough, and afterward Secretary at War.

[2] One of the French Commanders.

[3] The Duke of Marlborough.

[4] The extract to which Mr. Stepney refers follows this letter.

Mr. Stanhope will explain to you how the States-General understand the repartition of the subsidies for Portugal; and he will have seen by my letters how little can be expected from hence.

I believe the Archduke will be declared King of Spain this day se'nnight, and be going the 11th. It is possible I may kiss your fair hands by the end of the month.

I am ever,

Sir,

Your most humble and obedient servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. STEPNEY.

From Count D'Aversberg to Mr. Stepney.

Le 18e Août. 1703.

"Le Traité en question n' est pas encore signé, le Duc de Savoye ayant fait des nouvelles difficultés sur l'article de l'exécution, après qu'il avoit reçu des nouvelles de l'Empirè de l'action de la Tour; Je ne sçaurois douter que cela se fera, *vû que la parole est donneé.*(1)

"Le Duc de Savoye ne se porte pas bien, et je crois que sa maladie vient en partie de la grande agitation où il se trouve. Je vous dois aussí avertir que vous deviez faire en sorte que Monsieur Hill ne vienne pas ici jusqu' à ce que vous ayez d'autres nouvelles de moy, et jusqu' à ce que ce traité est mûr pour l'exécution, à moins de quoi l'on ne le recevroit pas; car il

(1) In that point I differ from the Count.

est constant, que si nous ne traitons cette affaire *très délicatement*, (2) le Duc de Savoye sera abimé de la France, avant que nous soyons en état à le secourir.

(2) That nicety comes too late.

Bath, 2nd September, 1703.

Sir,

I have received the favour of your two letters of the 20th and 24th past, O. S. I am very sorry that there is no manner of disposition in the States to comply with her Majesty in relation to the succours and subsidies for Portugal, concerning which I cannot yet give you any farther instructions, by reason three mails arrived here together late this evening; however, you are not like to lie idle there, for as you are one of my Lord High Admiral's Council,[1] her Majesty thinks it very proper, that you solicit not only the despatch of the Dutch ships, and their preparations for Portugal, but also press the States to send some person hither to concert the measures to be taken for the sea-affairs the next year. As to the particulars relating to the Portugal expedition, (which you desire to be informed of by me) I must refer you to the Earl of Nottingham, through whose hands that whole matter has passed, and I have desired him to inform you. Since the States will do no more, and your farther importunities are not like to avail with them, you are not to press them farther, or make them uneasy; but only use the best arguments you can to them, to have their ships and troops in readiness, that there may be no delay when the Archduke arrives. I am,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Whitehall, September 3rd, 1703.

Sir,

The last post brought me yours of $\frac{\text{Aug. 24, 27}}{\text{Sept. 4, 7.}}$, and this night I have received yours of September 11th, S. N.

[1] See Note 2, page 17.

I had before writ to the Prince's Council to consider of a squadron to winter at Lisbon, and I sent them the proposal I received from you; to which the enclosed is an answer,[1] and though I have not her Majesty's approbation of it, yet Secretary Hedges writes to me, that I may send you the Prince's Council's resolution, which in all probability will not be objected to: and you may discourse with the Admiralties of it, for it is certainly much better than theirs, and the only thing to be said against it seems to be, that we can't be so sure of a reinforcement from them in the spring; but surely this is what they will not say.

I am very sorry we shall have but 12 Dutch ships for the squadron to Portugal now; you know how few it is possible for us to add, and all together will be much inferior to the French, should they come out of the Straits, which seems probably to be their design; for since our fleet is got into the Mediterranean, as I hear from Lisbon, and is much superior to the French, I can't imagine to what purpose they have fitted out to sea all their ships at Toulon, as the French letters say, joined with several from W. France, and the Count de Thoulouse[1] there, unless it be to intercept our squadron to Lisbon which would be fatal to us, and with indelible reproach, and since the Dutch only can, and in justice to us, and in prudence (were it only to prevent our clamours for their failures) ought to do it, I hope your pressing instances for more will at last prevail, and the misfortunes of their own sea-conduct will persuade them to hearken to our importunities for the common good.

I understand from Mr. Secretary Hedges that he writes to you from the Bath, which makes it needless for me to say any thing to some other parts of your letters.

I think you have done extremely well to write to Mr. Stepney to hasten the Savoy-treaty, since without it the States will not move, and yet no time should be lost with that Prince whom you know. I am,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

[1] The enclosure follows this letter.

[2] Admiral of France.

September 3rd, 1703.

My Lord,

In answer to your lordship's letter of the 1st instant, touching some proposals made in Holland for some ships to remain on the coast of Portugal, we have considered thereof, and do humbly offer our opinion, that ten fourth-rates, two fifths, one sixth, and a fireship of her Majesty's may be a proper squadron for those parts in conjunction with those which the States-General shall appoint; in order whereunto it may be necessary to send directions to Sir C. Shovel[1] to leave at Lisbon, in his return from the Straits, all the fourth-rates that are with him, and in case the service shall require a reinforcement in the spring, the ships may be more conveniently sent from hence the beginning of the year, and be there before the time for action on the coast of Spain. We are,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most humble servants,

J. Bridges,[2] G. Rooke,[3]

To the Earl of Nottingham. D. Mitchell.[4]

Vienna, September 5th, 1703.

Sir,

I am to return you my acknowledgments for your favour of the $\frac{13}{24}$th past, wherein you seem alert upon the P.S.[5] of my letter to Mr. Stanhope of the 11th. The post following you will have seen a sudden change, which you must not impute to any fickleness in me, for I only transmit what I receive, plainly and honestly, without adding any tincture

[1] Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovel, Knt., who, from being a cabin-boy, rose to the highest honours of his profession. He died in 1707. His own ship, the Association, and several others, in proceeding to England, struck upon the rocks off Scilly, and were lost. The body of Sir Cloudesley on being discovered was conveyed to England and buried in Westminster Abbey, where a monument was erected to his memory.

[2] James Bridges, afterwards, ninth Lord, and first Duke, of Chandos.

[3] Admiral Sir George Rooke, Knt., whose name is memorable in history from his taking Gibraltar.

[4] Admiral Sir David Mitchell, Knt.

[5] Postscript.

of my own, and from the beginning of the negotiation to this day, I have barely quoted my author in his own words, leaving him to make good whatever he has advanced. By his last letter of the 18th (whereof I sent you a copy)[1] you will have seen the Duke was absolutely against your proceeding, and I am glad I guessed so right in stopping you as I did. By next post I may tell you more, (for those letters come in but once a week), and I believe he will be here shortly offering his child to be christened, or will confess his miscarriage. If you are authorized to stand god-father upon the terms wherewith you have been acquainted, and our Dutch friends are willing you should represent them likewise at that function, here is the font, and you will be heartily welcome: otherwise you may adjust your admiralty-affair at leisure, and I hope to see the effects of your labours, her Majesty having given me leave to attend the Archduke, our new King, to Holland, and then to make a trip to visit my friends in England. I believe it will be a fortnight before I get clear of this place, and about the 7th or 8th of next month before our King appears in the Netherlands. I reckon he will be declared here on the 10th instant. By that time your old friend, the Elector of Bavaria, is likely to be in a more wretched state than my unhappy favourite, the King of Poland, ever was; for after all his vast projects he has drawn into his country a French army, with 2 German bodies superior to the other, and 3 other Imperial detachments under Heister, Ravenclau, and Erbiville, who are preying on his frontier on 3 several parts; so that, without being a conjurer, a man may boldly prognosticate that both he and his country will be utterly destroyed in less than a month. I am, with great truth,

Sir,

Your most humble obedient servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. STEPNEY.

Mr. Stanhope will tell you what I have done this day about the Emperor's third, according to the draught that was sent me ready prepared in England. In a post or two I may be able to tell you whether I can persuade the Emperor and Archduke to sign that act or not.

[1] See page 24.

Bath, September 5th, 1703.

Sir,

I cannot say but the Pensioner is so far in the right as not to send powers to conclude the treaty with Savoy, before they see the copy of the treaty, and how far they were to be engaged by it, and are also informed of what the Duke of Savoy is obliged to on his side; but I do not understand why a general instruction to solicit the Emperor to comply with the concessions desired on his part, and to give assurances of the States' readiness to contribute towards the bringing the treaty to a good conclusion, or else sending instructions under limitations and restrictions, might not have been done. I believe the Queen would have received any proposition from the States with a little more respect than was given by the Pensioner to this of her Majesty's, if Mr. Stanhope's account, to which you refer me, be right; but no more of that. You have done all that is proper in desiring Mr. Stepney to send a copy of the treaty so soon as possible, and then we shall see what they intend to do. You will receive from the Earl of Nottingham a copy of a letter from the Prince's Council concerning a proposal made in Holland for some ships to remain on the coast of Portugal, according to which you will discourse the States and the Pensioner on the subject, and it is thought there will be time enough for sending the orders you are to conclude upon, when you give an account of their thoughts, and of your own opinion upon the whole.

My last acquainted you that you were not to press the States any more for the Emperor's third, to make them uneasy to no purpose, and I am now to inform you more particularly, that the same will be provided for by her Majesty, and have written to Mr. Stepney to give the Emperor assurances that all will be ready, that the Archduke's journey may not be delayed on that account; so that now you are to turn all your solicitations to quicken the Dutch to have their ships, troops, and whatever else they are obliged to provide, in a readiness. You will find the Emperor's ministers pressing for an advance of money for the Archduke's equipage, &c.; but you are upon all occasions to cut that matter short, and let them know, that the Queen having engaged for the Emperor's third, any further solicitations can have no effect; but if the States think fit to advance any thing by way of loan, we cannot but wish they would do that, or any thing

else, to quicken the Archduke's coming, on which the good success of the expedition very much depends. I thank you for the map of the lines and the pictures of the Tyrol-heroes, which I received with your 11th instant, from the Hague, and am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Whitehall, September 7th, 1703.

Sir,

I understand from Mr. Secretary Hedges, that he has writ to you her Majesty's pleasure about the Emperor's quota; so that I should have nothing to say to you by this post, but that, because you may hear that the King of Portugal has allowed Monsieur Chasteauneuf to come to Lisbon from Madrid, as Ambassador from the French King, from whence some, where you are, may be apprehensive of the King of Portugal's not persisting in the treaty, it may not be improper to tell you, that though the King of Portugal is not obliged by the treaty to own the Archduke for King of Spain till he arrives at Lisbon, yet he has given orders to his Envoy here to treat him with the same style as the Queen shall do upon his arrival here, or upon our coast, and to compliment him as King, if the Queen does so, of which, I presume, you do not doubt.

But since Chasteauneuf is received as ambassador from France, it is not likely that the news of Spain's declaring war against Portugal can be true. The letters from Lisbon, of August 29th, N.S. make no mention of it. I am, with great truth,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Vienna, September 8th, 1703.

Sir,

I have received the honour of your letters of the 27th and 28th past, and congratulate with you for the resolution you had taken not to proceed; for, by what I received this morn-

ing, you will find the negotiation with Savoy has been swept about till it is lost.[1] I never had any opinion of the Duke's honesty; but I could hardly conceive he was so impudent a knave as to prescribe his own conditions, to demand a minister might be sent to agree, or rather to sign with him, for all was in a manner settled before our fat Count left us, and, after having amused the easy creature 2 months to no purpose, break off without any manner of reason. After such infamous usage as this, mankind ought to detest him and all that belongs to him. Perhaps you will object, this Court has been too credulous, and has managed this whole matter with great indiscretion. I agree with you in that point; but the wisest Court in Christendom might have been deceived with such fair overtures, which no body but a Duke of Savoy could have the face to break through.

Of this disappointment I give you the earliest knowledge I can, that you may put a stop to any preparations you might make, and that you may save the Pensionary and the States-General the unnecessary pains they might have been at in settling their subsidies, and regulating their proportions. As to the powers and instructions which you proposed to be transmitted to me, if they come, they will now be so much waste paper; and having explained to you the banter, there remains nothing but to wish you a good voyage home again, or to desire you to wait a month longer for my company, for (I have told you) I expect, by that time, to be in Holland myself with the new King, if that too does not prove a banter; for I see in this world a man is sure of nothing. The declaration is put off till the 12th, and the departure till the 18th. I shall be satisfied, for my part, if he gets clear the 20th. I am truly,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant.

To Mr. Hill. G. STEPNEY.

Le 25e Août, 1703.

Monsieur,

En réponse de votre lettre du 4e courant, je vous dirai en peu de mots, que le traité est rompu, une terreur panique

[1] The letter here referred to is printed immediately after this.

a saisis le Duc de Savoye, et je n'ai jamais vu un homme qui a tellement perdu la tramontane tout d'un coup comme lui, je vous prie d'écrire cet avis ou cela conviendra, et comme j'espére de vous voir bientôt je vous en dirai alors les particularités.

Copy of Count D'Aversberg's letter to Mr. Stepney, and sent by him to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, September 10th, 1703.

Sir,

All the ships that the Prince's Council can get for the convoy to Lisbon are $\left\{\begin{matrix}1 & 2\text{nd} \\ 5 & 3\text{rd} \\ 5 & 4\text{th}\end{matrix}\right.$ rate.$\Big\}$, so that you see there is a necessity for the Dutch to send more than 12, for the reasons which I mentioned in mine of the 3rd instant.

We have indeed some more that are preparing for the West Indies that might accompany this squadron to Lisbon; but whether they can be got ready in time is a great question; for we want great numbers of men for them, and have no prospect of getting them, but by ships that come in; on which we cannot depend. I am,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Vienna, September 15th, 1703.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge your last letter of the $\frac{20\text{th}}{31\text{st}}$ past, which I forebore doing by last post, supposing I might have received this morning some new information from Count D'Aversberg; but nobody has received any letter from him this day, which makes me believe he is on his way hither; and I may hope to hear his story by word of mouth before I set out, which I believe will be on the 24th, five days after the King of Spain.

I all along expected the States-General would be firm to their first proposal of not going deeper than their own third

in the expense of the Portugal-treaty: against next post I shall have assurances from the Emperor and the new King, that whoever will advance the other third shall be repaid hereafter; if those promises will help Mr. Stanhope and you in what you are soliciting, you may make the best of them. I am ever,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. STEPNEY.

Zurich, 15th September, 1703.

Sir,

I received yesterday a letter from Count D'Aversberg's correspondent, who tells me that the Count is coming home; that the Prince of Vaudemont, and the French ambassador here, having received orders from France to endeavour, by all means, to intercept the said Count, he (the person at Berne) has sent to meet him, for it would be dangerous for him to pass either through the Valois or the Catholic Cantons. By his letter, and some other circumstances, he says, he guesses that the Duke *a fait des grandes reproches au Comte de ce que la chose estoit devenuë si publique*. The same person adds, that the Count does not explain himself further upon the success of his negotiation; but, by what he writes, there seems to be more grounds for hopes than fears. Other advices say he has sent all our proposals in original to France to justify himself there. I would not omit giving you this short account, which is all at present from, &c.

To Mr. Hill. WM. AGLIONBY.

Whitehall, September 16th, 1703.

Sir,

You have been sent abroad upon one uncertainty, and you will wonder that I should propose to you another, which is, going to Venice; it is so natural and easy to believe what we wish, that a little intimation of good intentions in that Senate is sufficient to persuade us that they will come into the alliance: a little time will shew us whether our hopes are vain;

but if the Duke of Savoy should sign the treaty, or the Prince of Baden should have great success, or any other good fortune should attend us, and, thereupon, the State of Venice should be induced to make, or receive, overtures of this kind, I must ask you, whether you would be willing to proceed on such an errand? I think I could answer for you.

Here is lately come back a man who was sent to the Cevennes: his name is Flotard,[1] and he says he has given the Pensioner an account of his proceedings, which makes it not necessary to repeat to you all the particulars which you will hear from him; for you must discourse with him (but secretly) of this matter, and know his opinion how far the States will concur with her Majesty in succouring those poor men; and what are the properest methods of doing it. If the Duke of Savoy comes into the alliance it will be easy; but Monsieur Miremont, who offers to go, says, that succours may be got together in Switzerland, and march that way into France. Monsieur Arnaud,[2] the Vaudois, is ready to get together his regiment for this purpose, and proposes, that 8000 men will be requisite and sufficient; Monsieur Miremont has promised me a scheme of this design. In the mean time we should be willing to have the Pensioner's thoughts of this undertaking, who, by the relation he has had from Flotard, will be able to judge of it as well as by the scheme I mentioned if I had it. I am, with truth and respect,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Vienna, Sept. 19th, 1703.

Sir,

I return you thanks for your favour of the 8th inst. by the courier, who is the same person who returns with this, and may assure you by word of mouth, that he saw the King

[1] See letters of Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill, of February 25th, and March 10th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$ respecting Flotard.

[2] See Monsieur Arnaud further referred to in Lord Nottingham's letters to Mr. Hill, of 12th and 19th October, and 2nd November, 1703, and in Mr. Hill's to Lord Nottingham of December $\frac{13}{2}$ and $\frac{4}{15}$ December, 1703, and February 1st, 1704.

of Spain set out this evening at 6 o'clock. It is now your business and Mr. Stanhope's to hasten the Dutch ships and forces, that the King of Portugal may not suffer for want of them.

The same courier carries the Emperor's ratification of the promissory act, and the King of Spain's confirmation thereof; one set for her Majesty, and another for the States-General. I wish those assurances may prevail with them to advance $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Emperor's quota, which is but a very reasonable demand, and their behaviour will seem very unaccountable to the Parliament if they should offer to let the treaty drop upon so small a matter.

I less wonder at the Pensionary's thrifty way of bargaining with Savoy, and that he will see the treaty before he will declare what sum the States shall allow. He will have been informed that the Duke is to give 16,000 men for the service of the Allies, and desires no pay till he has taken his party; what sums he desires, you have been told already; and how far they will comply (if at all) might have been explained in half this time: but, by their delaying to explain themselves to you or their minister here, I have reason to think they either are not in earnest to treat, or suspect the Duke is not honestly inclined, which is most likely, notwithstanding his catching hold again of our Count, and pulling him into his Palace, according to what you find in my letter to my Lord Nottingham. Were it not to know more of this matter, I should hardly stay for the arrival of next post, before I set out; but I am willing to see more into the Duke's behaviour, and then the next courier you have will be,

Sir,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. STEPNEY.

Vienna, 19th September, 1703.

I have had no letters from Count D'Aversberg since what I sent you on the 25th past; but I hear others have notice, of 3 or 4 days fresher dates, that as he was about to take his leave of the Duke, supposing his negotiation was broken off beyond all hopes of retrieving it, his Royal Highness had prevailed with him to stay some time longer, and

had lodged him in a private apartment in his Palace at Turin. I suspend my judgment till next post, when I expect other letters from him, or to see him in person, and so come to the bottom of these mysterious proceedings, which I cannot comprehend.

[G. STEPNEY.]

Bath, 20th September, 1703.

Sir,

I send you, by her Majesty's commands, an account of a voyage to the Cevennes, and a proposal of the Marquis de Miremont, which when you have read, you will understand all that I can say for your information relating to those papers. The use you are to make of them is, to communicate them to the Pensioner, and to ask his opinion in what may fit to be done, if it be judged practicable. It is a service that ought not to be neglected, and if the States are as well disposed as her Majesty to turn their thoughts to have any thing put in execution, according to the Marquis de Miremont's proposal, or any other way, you are empowered to engage her Majesty for $\frac{2}{3}$ of the expense in the expedition proposed, if you cannot obtain better terms, which you are to endeavour, but not to press so far as to discourage them from that undertaking; and if they think fit to make any other proposal for the assistance of the Cevennes, and making a diversion on that side, you will let us know what they are, and, if they are reasonable and well grounded, you may assure them her Majesty will be ready to concur with them. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Vienna, 22nd September, 1703.

Sir,

I received yesterday your favour of the 11th instant; and could have wished you had kept your Savoy-powers to yourself, for I never had any fancy to that negotiation, and am mortified to the last degree by orders I receive to stay here till I see the end of that banter; whereas I had got leave, and was prepared for my trip to Holland and England, and should have set out in 2 days if this cursed Count D'Aversberg,

and his wild treaty, did not hinder my career. What are now the appearances of that matter you will see by an extract of his last letter,[1] and what else Mr. Stanhope may tell you if this finds you at the Hague. I cannot enlarge for fear of losing the post. I am, very sincerely,

Sir,

Your most humble and most faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. STEPNEY.

Le 8e de Sept., 1703.

Monsieur,

Je ne vous ay pas écrit la poste passée faute de tems. Je ne doute point que vous aurez appris que le Duc de Savoye a de la peine à rompre. Cependant la flatterie de la France lui fait croire qu'il y une si grande necessité d'être gagné d'un côté ou d' autre, qu'il ne doute pas qu'il ne fera bien ses affaires.

J'attends avec impatience les ordres que l'on me donnera, car je suis bien las de la vie que je mène, et de faire l' Hermite Politique. Cependant je vous puis assurer que le Duc de Savoye a une bonne intention pour nous, mais la peur d'être englouti par la France avant que l'on le puisse secourir, lui fait tenir cette conduite laquelle ne me paroit pas trop habile ; le tems nous dira le reste.

L'on n'a point de nouvelle que Monsieur Schovel soit entré dans la Méditerrannée, l'on sçait seulement qu'il a passé a la Hauteur de Cadix le 15e d' Août.

From Count D'Aversberg
to Mr. Stepney.

Chambery, 25th Sept., 1703.

Monsieur,

Je reçus en arrivant en ce pays la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'escrire de la Haie, et je l'envoyay d'abord à S. A. R. pour l'informer plus fidellement de tout ce que vous avez pris la peine de me marquer touchant votre destination à notre Cour. Je dois vous assurer sincèrement qu'il conserve pour vous une estime très particulière et qu'il

[1] The extract follows this letter,

seroit ravi, si les conjunctures le permettoient, de revoir auprès de sa personne un Ministre tel que vous, sur tout venant de la part d'une Reine qu'il honore infiniment: mais l'engagement qu'il a pris avec les deux couronnes et toutes les autres raisons qui l'attachent si fortement à leurs intérêts, ne lui permettent pas de recevoir l'honneur que S. M. B. à bien voulu lui faire, et dont il aura une reconnoisance éternelle, votre sagesse vous fera remarquer aisément que notre Cour ne peut pas prendre une autre résolution quoi qu'elle ait un attachement très respectueux pour votre grande Reine; j'espére que nous ne laisserons pas d'entretenir le commerce de notre ancienne amitié que j'estime par dessus toutes les choses du monde.

Je suis fort incommodé en cette ville d'un violent rheumatisme, dont je veux me guérir par l'usage des bains de soufre que nous avons à Aix; je sens un soulagement particulier de m'entretenir avec vous et de vous assurer de l'attachement inviolable avec lequel je continueray dêtre toute ma vie, &c.

A Monsieur Hill. DE LA TOUR.

Bath, September 27th, 1703.

Sir,

I thank you for the favour of yours of the $\frac{16}{27}$th instant, with the good news from Limbourg, and have nothing more to trouble you [with] than what you will find in mine of the 2nd and 5th instant; which last I hope is before this come to your hands. The Queen will not leave this place before Tuesday-se'nnight; she has been somewhat indisposed with the gout, but is recovering, and hopes to be very well able to bear her journey to Windsor by that time. I am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Extracts of three letters from Mr. Aglionby to Mr. Hill:—

Zurich, 5th Sept., 1703.

—— I received a week since the Queen's commands to

write to him[1] about using his endeavours to get you admitted, and withal to let him know, that you come with a full power to grant all that can reasonably be expected from her Majesty; this I have done, and if the Count is not come away he will soon have my letter, and I hope afford me an answer, otherwise I shall see him as he goes by.

Zurich, 8th Sept., 1703.

—— I received yesterday a letter from a person at Berne, with whom Count D'Aversberg corresponds, and to whom I had directed one for him, which he tells me he has furthered; and withal adds, that he had just then received a letter from the said Count, of 21st August, from Turin, in which are these words: "Le Duc de Savoye souhaite que je vous écrire que vous donniez part à Monsieur Aglionby, que comme toutes lettres et même les Gazettes portent que Monsieur Hill n'estoit pas seulement nommé pour venir ici, mais qu'on le croiroit même en chemin, que si le dit Hill a pris celui de Suisse, qu'il n'avance pas vers ici jusques à ce qu'il aye de mes nouvelles. Je vous en diray les raisons de bouche." By the last words of Count D'Aversberg one would think he were coming away; but the same person says in his to me, that he does not expect him so soon.

Zurich, 29th Sept., 1703.

—— Enclosed you will find a letter from Count D'Aversberg, and an abstract of three letters of his to me, by all which you will see how matters stand with him. I dare not use my own thoughts in so ticklish a matter, and you know the old school-rule, applicable here, *de futuris contingentibus &c;* but this I must say, I wonder much that our little friend should be excluded from all that affair if they mean well; and it is so (as the Count affirms), and, indeed, he told me so at his passage here, which made me shy of corresponding with him though invited. I writ word so to England.

I am informed from Geneva that the little man is come to Chambery, and is thought to be designed for Holland and England. If so, sure he will not go through France; but I fear he may be rather designed to meet somebody on the frontiers, and there conclude the bargain with old friends.

[1] Count D'Aversberg.

Pray let me hear how all this is relished in England, and what measures you are like to take, &c.

To Mr. Hill. WM. AGLIONBY.

(Turin,) le 22e Septembre, 1703.

Monsieur,

Ayant eu le plaisir de voir une lettre que vous avez écrite du 24e Août de la Haie pour vous informer d'un certain personnage de votre connoissance, que vous deviez tenir dans les conjunctures présentes à l'égard de votre voyage et [pour dire] que vous vous arrêterez a Francfort jusqu' à ce que vous en ayez une réponse; je vous dois dire que le même personnage vous repondra d'un stile dont vous jugerez aisément que le meilleur seroit, que vous rebrousassiez chemin, mais la même personne qui fait écrire a ce personnage la lettre dont il s'agit, souhaite par celle-ci, que vous voulez vous arrêter où vous êtes jusqu' à ce que vous ayez de mes nouvelles: lesquelles suivront de près celle-ci, et que vous romprez toute correspondence de lettre avec votre ami, parceque l'on ne se fie pas dans l'affaire presente, étant inviolablement attaché à ceux qui ne souhaitent pas qu'elle se fasse, je voudrois être en tems et lieu à vous pouvoir témoigner plus vivement la joie que j'ay à vous faire souvenir de moy, mais la necessité m' oblige à le différer cependant je vous conjure d'être persuadé que je suis, avec passion,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

A Monsieur Hill. CONSTANTIN.[1]

Extracts of three letters from Monsieur Constantin, otherwise Count D'Aversberg, to Mr. Aglionby, and sent by him to Mr. Hill in a letter from Zurich, the 29th Sept., 1703:—

Turin, 11e Septre 1703.

Monsieur,

Je me suis donné l'honneur de vous écrire, le 4e du courant en Suisse; de laquelle je vous diray, que j'attends avec

[1] Count D'Abersberg.

impatience la réponse de mes lettres de Vienne laquelle décidera de mon sort. J'ay lu dans une Gazette que Monsieur Hill estoit déjà arrivé a la Haie pour passer à Turin, dont je m' étonne parce qu'il me semble avoir ouy dire que le Duc de Savoye n' a pas encore pris de la résolution, estant un Prince plein de difficultés, de sorte que l'on auroit de la peine à recevoir le dit Monsieur Hill. Je vous prie de m'en dire votre sentiment; l'on dit même qu'il est arrivé des lettres de change à Genève considérables pour Monsieur Hill. L'on dit aussi que la France ayant esté alarmée du bruit qui couroit que le dit Duc de Savoye vouloit être dans la grande alliance, luy fait aussi des offres lesquels pourroient bien être écoutés, en même tems croiant par là pouvoir mieux choisir et se persuadant que la nécessité fera que la France agira de bonne foy.

Le 18e Septre.

—— Je vois par celle que vous me faites l'honneur de m'escrire du 1r du courant, que j'ay receu par le dernier ordinaire, que vous n'aviez pas receu les miennes, quoy-que je n' ai pas manqué à vous escrire plusieurs fois: enfin j'espére que celle-ci aura un meilleur sort que les précédentes. C'est pourquoy je vous diray que j'ay exécuté ce que S. M. la Reine m'a ordonné. L'on l' a receu comme l'on doit, cependant vous aurez vu par ma précédente que toute l'affaire demande un peu de delay dont je vous informeray dans fort peu de tems, soit de bouche, soit par escrit; l'on a de la peine a se resoudre, quoique l'intention est toujours bonne, l'on voudroit, mais avec le moins de risque que cela pourroit être, de sorte que j'attends encore une response d'où vous pouvez croire laquelle ne sçauroit plus retarder.

Le 22e Septre.

—— Je prens la liberté de vous envoyer la cette lettre pour Monsieur Hill, par la raison qu'il avoit escrit à un certain homme ici pour sçavoir de lui de la manière qu'il se doit comporter pour s'acquitter des ordres de la Reine: ce petit bout d'homme estoit une fois bien de nos amis; mais il a changé de blanc au noir, tellement que la personne la plus interessée estoit fort étonnée de cet incident, et comme l'on ne luy veut pas communiquer les veritables intentions; l'on lui ordonné d'escrire à Monsieur Hill d'une manière à pouvoir croire qu'il n'auroit qu'a rebrousser chemin, cependant j'y dois remédier

par celle-ci, et je dois dire à Monsieur Hill qu'il ne s'en effarouche pas, mais qu'il attende où il est jusques à ce qu'il ait de mes nouvelles; je vous prie de lui envoyer cette incluse et de lui expliquer ce que c'est que Constantin, et si vous ne savez pas son addresse à Francfort où il prétend attendre la response, il souhaite qu'on mette sa lettre sous l'envelope de Monsieur Couvreur à Francfort.

Vienna, 10th October, 1703.

Sir,

I deferred acknowledging your favour of the 17th past, from Maestricht, for want of new matter from Count D'Aversberg, which I received 3 days ago, and you will see your little Count de la Tour is not the man you took him for; and it were to be wished (since you say all the intelligence our ministers in England had of that affair came from thence) this Court might have been consulted how far such application had been seasonable, before you had consulted that minister. I will not suspect he has betrayed his master: if he has he deserves to be yet a span shorter; but it is a scurvy circumstance, that my letter of advice from Count D'Aversberg should be of the 22nd, and the Duke's troops be seized and disarmed by the Duke of Vendôme the 29th. It is true the negotiation has been nothing less than a secret, and, perhaps, never any affair was transacted from the beginning to the end with so much negligence and indiscretion as this has been: how the Duke will get out of this labyrinth is rather my curiosity than my concern. However, if his necessity should incline [him] to join with us, I should think the States-General *in omnem eventum* might instruct and authorize Monsieur Bruyninx how far he should conclude for them; otherwise he is sacrificed to the enemy, and has no certainty how far his new friends will be willing to assist him: he has brought himself to this distress by being too cunning, which justifies our English proverb, that honesty is the best policy. I have already acquainted you that I am kept here by my full powers, and have now no more hopes of kissing your hands this winter; so there only remains for me to wish you all satisfaction in the happy Island, and to assure you of my being, &c.

To Mr. Hill. G. Stepney.

Le 22e Septre 1703.

Je ne vous ai pas écrit la poste passée, parce qu'il n'y avoit pas grande chose à vous mander. Du depuis j'ay receu une lettre de Monsieur Aglionby; par laquelle il me mande que la Reine lui avoit écrit de m'ordonner de sa part, que je disse au Duc de Savoye, que Monsieur Hill a été nommé pour venir ici muni des pleins pouvoirs avec ordre de consentir à tout ce que Monsieur Le Duc de Savoye pourroit raisonnablement prétendre; je me suis acquitté de ma commission, l'on l'a reçue comme l'on le doit, cependant l'on fait attendre la suite de la Cour de Vienne. L'on écrit de France que l'Ecosse doit avoir pour Roi le pretendu Prince de Galles. Monsieur Hill aiant écrit à Monsieur de la Tour pour sçavoir quand il pourra venir ici, et quelle contenance il pourra tenir; cette circonstance a extrêmement étourdi Monsieur Le Duc de Savoye parceque ce Comte de la Tour est plus François que Savoyard, et il craint qu'il découvrira tout le mystère; et que Monsieur Hill lui écrira (croiant bien faire) que je suis ici; Je le rassure le mieux qu'il m'est possible, et je lui ay dis que Monsieur Hill aura reçu votre lettre, en vertu de la quelle il sçaura ce qu'il en est. L'on dit que le Duc de Vendôme sera rappellé, et comme le P. de Vaudemont ne garde plus de mesure avec lui, il faut qu'il soit assuré de la perte de l'autre. Le Comte de Thoulouse s'en retourne de Thoulon à Paris et l'on désarme les Vaisseaux, si bien que la flotte des Alliez peut avoir beau jeu.

From Count D'Aversberg to Mr. Stepney.

Whitehall, October 12th, 1703.

Sir,

I have received yours of the 1st, 5th, and 8th inst., O.S. The last of which is a good explanation of the first, and of Mr. Constantin's letter, and I presume you will soon hear from him; for, after such a step made by France against the Duke of Savoy, and his proceedings in return of it, there seems to be a necessity of his going further; nay that he had concluded with Count D'Aversberg before he would venture so far as he has already done: and we may promise ourselves as much from this necessity as from the good intentions which

Count D'Aversberg ever found in that Prince toward the interest of the allies. In this case it is likely your first journey will be to Turin, though I have told the Queen your readiness to obey her commands at Venice, where you need not apprehend a superior officer; and, considering the present circumstances of the Duke of Savoy with France, I may say, without regard to the map, but in a better sense, the surest way to Venice is by Turin. Perhaps, after the next letters from Holland, I may have orders to write to you more particularly of these matters. In the mean time, without order, I may say, that the Pensioner should lose no time in coming to a resolution about Flotard's business, and the proposal of Monsieur Miremont; and because, even when the resolution is taken, the execution will require time, and the present conjuncture requires something to be done immediately, especially if that part of our news be true, that the Duke of Savoy is arming the Vaudois and poor Protestants, methinks their Generalissimo can't be forgot. Monsieur Arnaud (who I know is ready so soon as he is enabled by money) should be sent thither, and I am sure the Queen will contribute with the States towards it, both for his personal support, and the carrying on such designs as he is very well able to form, as well as brave to execute: I say this because you have already directions to concert with the Pensioner the proper measures for succouring the Cevennois, and for the Queen's proportion, and I mention this of Monsieur Arnaud, because I think he will be of great use for this purpose.

I can say nothing more of the troops for Portugal than what I lately writ to the Duke of Marlborough, that the addition of the other moiety of the Emperor's quota, which the Queen resolved to furnish, must be taken from the army in Flanders, and accordingly transport-ships have been taken up here, and are sailed to Holland; so you are eased of that care and trouble which we feared you must have had. I am, with great sincerity,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, 19th October, 1703.

Sir,

I have received yours of the $\frac{12}{23}$rd. As for the King of

Spain's retinue, horses and baggage, there can be no other directions than, in general, that care must be taken to provide for them on board of the men of war, yachts, and transports. The greatest difficulty seems to be about his horses; this Mr. Sadler should be ordered by you to prepare for their reception, which he should be told forthwith, because it will require time to make stalls for them, as is usual for carrying horses. But I doubt our men will be too much crowded unless the States will ease us by ordering some part of this equipage on board of their ships. What I writ last to you in relation to Monsieur Arnaud, her Majesty approves, as also what the Pensioner proposes of advancing 200,000 gilders, which her Majesty is ready to do; but no particular way being offered by him for employing this sum, my Lord Treasurer has not remitted it to you by this post, but bids me tell you, that whatever the Pensioner shall judge so reasonable and practicable as that the States will join their 100,000 gilders for carrying it on, her Majesty's money may be depended upon, and, that no time may be lost, you may use your credit, which has gone there for much greater sums, and your bills shall be punctually paid; and for Monsieur Miremont's project, if it be approved, there should be no time lost, and his zeal is such that he will not require much to proceed upon it. We long to hear what the business of Savoy will turn to; the seizing his troops should provoke him to a generous resolution, though I fear it very much disables him to perform it; if he be in earnest it is pity we did not know his mind sooner, for Cloudesley Shovel has 2500 land-men on board, of which the greatest part I find her Majesty would willingly have ordered to be disembarked, and left with the Duke of Savoy, to support him till other methods could have been found for it, and, perhaps, the Dutch have some men too, and would have followed her Majesty's example. The Pensioner might very reasonably have expected, after what you said to him at first, that now the Queen bears the whole quota of the Emperor, in all respects her Majesty would much more require 2000 of her own men towards it; besides that, in truth, it is impossible otherwise to furnish that number. But I am troubled to find he is still of opinion that a vast army is necessary in Flanders, (as I conclude he does, by grieving at the Queen's taking away 2000 men), and that our great effort must still be there, where we so fruitlessly spent our blood and

treasure in the last war; and where this method must, in our present circumstances, be still more useless and ruinous than it was even in the last war. But I have no orders to write on this subject, and, therefore, will not enlarge upon it, and the rather, because I believe I have discoursed with you of this matter on other occasions, and shall only say, that the present conjuncture, and what we may fairly hope, is much more inviting to other measures than any opportunity we ever yet had. I did acquaint you, in mine of September 3rd, with the proposal of the Prince's Council for a squadron of men of war to winter at Lisbon, which for our quota was 12 men of war, as I think; this project is resolved to be pursued here, and it is hoped that the States, who were so earnest for a greater squadron, will, at least, agree to their proportion to our 12: which will be highly necessary in many respects, and may be augmented, if need be, and as we hear what the French do. This you will speak of to the Pensioner, &c.: that there may be no failure on their part. And since both Monsieur Vryberge here, and, as I remember, the Pensioner himself to you said, that though Admiral Allemonde[1] agreed to a project for this year's fleet, yet the States never declared their approbation of it, and gave this for a reason why they did not comply with that and our just expectations; and since the transacting an affair of this kind is not only more sure, but likely to be more expeditiously done at the Hague than here, her Majesty would have you speak with the Pensioner, and with whom else you think proper, to adjust the number of the next year's main fleet; and though the particular distribution of it here, in the Mediterranean, and the coast of Spain, and Portugal, will depend upon the French in great measure, and upon the services that the circumstances of affairs in the spring may require, yet the number of the whole may be adjusted, for that is to be estimated so as to be superior to whatever the French can put to sea, and they seem to be preparing in all their ports for a great fleet next summer. You know that what we shall be able to set out will depend very much upon the condition in which Sir Cloudesley Shovel and Graydon's[2] squadrons shall be at their return:

[1] Dutch Admiral.

[2] Admiral John Graydon whom the House of Lords afterwards passed a vote of censure against, and prayed her Majesty that he might no more be employed in her service.

and if we should not be able to fit out so many as our proportion of the whole, that shall be needful, amounts to, the States, instead of objecting any deficiency on our part after their own failure this year, should rather exceed their proportion, if it be necessary for our defence, since we have no army to defend us, and they have all ours in their service: but I hope I need not prepare for an excuse, for that we shall be able to do our part; but we wish that the number should not be less than was intended this year, for we think less will not be sufficient; we wish that they would rather propose what they are willing and able to furnish, and on which we may depend, and which we may have early, and if they should name a less than that of this year, you must earnestly press them to come up to it. We wish also, and methinks they should much more wish, that where our trade lies together we might agree in the times and convoys of it; this will be more secure and less charge to us both. I shall send you a proposal next post from the Prince's Council to this purpose, and, in the mean time, you may discourse with them of this, and you will see whether they will be willing to join in a scheme of this kind, since their own contrivances this year for themselves have been very unfortunate. My paper is at an end, and so, I believe, is your patience. I am, &c.,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

29th October, 1703.

Sir,

I have to thank you for the favour of your letter, and your good news of the Duke of Savoy, who may depend upon all the readiness imaginable to assist him from hence; and I suppose my Lord Nottingham will take care he shall receive an answer to his letter to the Queen by this post, and will encourage him to expect the speediest assistance from her Majesty; though, at the same time, I can't look upon his Royal Highness to be so wholly unfurnished of money in hand, that it won't be almost equal to him whether he has our remittances in November or December, so that he has them within a short time. I shall be for the shortest you can propose; but I incline to think it would be for the Queen's service you should be here at the beginning of the Parliament,

because you are perfectly informed of the present condition of———[1], and will be believed in the account you give of it, by those who will not believe many others in that point. When you are here, it will depend of you to say what shall be done for the Duke of Savoy and when, as also what we may reasonably require of him in return for our money. I am always, with great truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

Whitehall, October 29th, 1703.

Sir,

I have received yours of October $\frac{19}{30}$th, November 2nd and 3rd, N. S. My letter to the Duke of Marlborough about the 2000 [men] from Holland to Portugal was in that packet-boat which was lost; and as soon as I heard it, I sent by the next post a duplicate. I hope the service has not been delayed by this misfortune; and that the States will make no difficulty in consenting to their coming away. Mr. Vryberge has, indeed, pursuant to his orders, spoke of it, but so as to give us reason to conclude there will be no delay in sending them; so I need say nothing to support the reasonableness of the Queen's resolution.

I must now acquaint you with the Queen's pleasure, that you should forthwith return into England. And that this may not be misinterpreted with respect to the Duke of Savoy, I must tell you, that I have writ to Mr. Aglionby to send a letter (which I have enclosed to him), from the Queen to the Duke of Savoy, assuring his Royal Highness of her utmost and speediest assistance of him, and her resolution of sending you to reside at Turin, so soon as you are instructed in some particulars, which are now necessary upon the Duke of Savoy's declaration. I have told Mr. Aglionby, that though you are at present called home, it was, because her Majesty wanted an account from you of some things committed to your care in Holland, part of which would be of service to his

[1] The Editor has not found this letter copied as he has many of the others. The word here omitted is illegible in the original, the letter being discoloured from damp.

Royal Highness: that Mr. Stepney had full powers in relation to the treaty, and that his Highness would find, in all respects, the greatest inclination he could wish in her Majesty to provide for his security and interest.

And in order to it, and that no time may be lost in succouring this Prince in his present difficult circumstances, the States need not doubt that whatever measures they (who are nearest and can be sooner informed of the proceedings in Savoy than her Majesty) think fit to take, her Majesty will concur with them.

Their resolution about the method of succouring the Cevennois should be speedy, for these are the most likely, if timely assisted, to frustrate the attempts on that side, which we hear the Count de Tessé[1] is to make with a part of Montrevel's troops, which may probably be reinforced by those of the Toulon fleet now Sir Cloudesley Shovel is come away. I am glad what I wrote in mine of the 12th, about Monsieur Arnaud, so well agrees with your own thoughts. This, also, if speedily executed, would greatly contribute to the service of the Duke of Savoy, and the 200,000 gilders, with 100,000 of the States, is a good fund to begin upon.

I hope you will have settled these matters, and put them into a way of being executed, before this letter reaches you, and that you have adjusted, with the States' ministers, the numbers of our fleet, &c., as I writ you formerly to do, that we may know what we may depend on the next year, and also for a winter squadron, both here and at Lisbon. I sent to the Prince's Council about hastening the 2 frigates to Sir George Rooke. I am, with great truth and respect,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Oct. 30th.

This morning I received yours of Nov. 6th, N.S., and I am to tell you that the project for the Portugal squadron is approved, and will, on our part, be executed accordingly.

Zurich, the 31st October, 1703.

Sir,

I have the honour of yours of the 19th: and see that

[1] A French Marshal.

the French proceedings are got to you; but not the Savoy ones which concern you more. But by this time you will have had them amply, and orders too from England I hope.

I had yesterday a letter from Constantin, who tells me all is firm and steady; that Vendôme does not yet advance (it is of the 16th): that there are hopes that 2 or 3000 horse of Staremberg's[1] army may penetrate by the Parmisan into Piedmont and join them; in which case, he says, the Duke will not be barely upon the defensive.

I let him know that I had heard from you who were ready to comply with his desires; but I confess I said nothing about Mr. Stepney's full power, for I knew it would discourage him and the Duke, if the Queen's Minister, who had so readily set out before things were ripe, should now, upon their full maturity, return to England instead of coming forward. Your presence is of the highest importance in these hard beginnings, where the Duke is put to all his shifts. Some of his chief counsellors advise yet an accommodation, and, amongst the rest, our little friend was so vehement against a declaration for the allies, that upon it he has laid down all his places, and desired to retire to Savoy, that is to say, to France, as Constantin writes me; he told the Duke, that the German army in Italy was not above 6000 strong, and all the Emperor's armies in Germany either beaten or hard beset, and himself going to be driven from Vienna by the rebels, and asked, how he could hope to maintain himself against France with such allies?

You may judge of what weight such impressions may be, if seconded by an invasion on both sides of Piedmont, and Savoy, and how necessary it will be to have a minister from the Queen to keep up this first resentment of the Duke's against France. Therefore pray, once more, if you have orders, make haste.

The neutrality for Savoy will be put into negotiation at the Diet; but what with Puisieaux's[2] remonstrances and other *remoras*,[3] if the French have a mind to take Savoy they may do it before any resolution will be taken here.

There is a banker at Berne, who has credit for you for

[1] Commander of the Imperial forces in Italy.

[2] The Marquis de Puisieaux, a minister of France.

[3] Remora; *obstacle, hindrance, pull-back.*

4000 louis d'ors, who has caused a friend to write to me to know when you would be here. I have answered *Ignoramus*, for if I did know, it were not proper to tell: you must come as privately as possible to be safe.

I am glad you are so hard at work to set the new King of Spain going: the Elector Palatine would have done better to have given him a supper and a breakfast and adieu, than to spend a 100 thousand crowns to keep him back, while the French are ravaging all his country, and his soldiers want pay; but these are the least of German follies. I long to hear he is on board: he is our sheet-anchor. I am ever, with great truth, and longing to embrace you,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. WM. AGLIONBY.

Zurich, the 31st October, 1703.

Sir,

Since the writing of the enclosed, just as the post is going away, I have yours of the 23rd of October, for which thanks.

As to your writing to the little man, though it was unlucky, I cannot lay that stress upon it which the fat friend and Mr. Stepney do. I rather believe it helped to determine the Duke, in case of the seizure of his troops, which he could not but foresee after all the noise the thing had made in the world, and he was glad to see you were so ready to come upon call. I had given notice to Lord Nottingham, that the little man was pretended not to be trusted; but, at the same time, I said that was hard to believe, and I suppose the cabinet did not believe it themselves when they gave you that order. By what you will see in the enclosed, the little man does think his master undone, and truly he is near it, if Providence do not assist him.

The Duke of Vendôme was not entered his dominions the 20th, and there were only some brigades at a place called Candre, which I cannot find on my map; but the Italian letters this day say he has fallen upon 1200 German horse, near Tortona, going for Premont, and has totally routed them.

We are labouring here to get the Cantons to concern themselves for a neutrality for Savoy, and the Diet was to be cal-

led for the 4th November; but the Duke's Envoy writ me a letter to day to desire me to get it put off, which I have done; and it is now *sine die*. But I fear he has been ill advised, and that the French will take Savoy before it meets, and then the Cantons will not stir to recover it.

Pray make haste. I hope this will find you at Francfort, where lose no time. The roads are yet clear to Schaffouse[1] by the Wirtemberg. I am ever, &c.

To Mr. Hill. WM. AGLIONBY.

Vienna, 31st Oct. 1703.

Sir,

I have your favour of the $\frac{5}{16}$th inst.: and though you talk of nothing but waters at Aix, yet, I must tell you, other people suspect you were dabbling there in other matters. You great ministers cannot take the least step but the world will imagine there is some mystery in it, and the poor Circle of Suabia has been frightened as if you were laying there some preliminaries towards a peace. A wise privy counsellor has begged of me, for Heaven's sake, to tell him if it be so, and he swears upon the sacrament not to reveal the secret. I protest to him (and I believe I may with a safe conscience), that his correspondents have given him a false alarm, and that you only amused yourself there till you could get safe to the camp. However, by this accident, you may judge of what a spirit we are of.

As plain and honest a man as you are, I suppose you will very soon be ordered to proceed towards your juggler; for, at last, his necessities have made him determine for us, as you will see by what I write this evening to Mr. Secretary Hedges;[2] to which I have nothing to add except that Mr. Salvai is arrived, and tells us we may expect your friend Count Tarin here towards the end of the week, with the treaty itself. Here is a report as if he had hurt his leg on the road, which occasions his coming so slowly. They talk of Count Massin to be ambassador here. You will have heard scandal say, he formerly represented his master on another occasion.

You think the States-General will not stick to come into

[1] Probably Schaffhausen is meant.

[2] An Extract from Mr. Stepney's letter to Mr. Secretary Hedges follows this.

the treaty: I wish you may find it so when you come to the proof. I am, sincerely,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. STEPNEY.

Vienna, 31st Oct. 1703.

Sir,

The extract which accompanies this gives an exact specification of the detachment I mentioned in my last to have been made by General Staremberg for the Duke of Savoy's assistance. I wish it may get safe towards Alexandria, which is the place whither the Duke of Savoy desires their march may be directed.

By Count D'Aversberg's last letters, of the 11th., it seems he had sent some of the 6th by Mr. Salvai, and others of the 8th by Count Tarin, who was formerly Envoy from his Royal Highness to the Elector of Bavaria, while he resided at Brussels, and is now appointed to stay here, with that character, till an ambassador can arrive. We suppose one or other of these gentlemen will bring with them the treaty itself, and that, for their better security, they are coming about by the way of Switzerland, since it is 3 weeks that they have been upon the road, and are not yet arrived.

I am told the Duke of Savoy was about to despatch some Minister for the Hague and for England, to settle the subsidies which his Royal Highness requires, and to regulate the manner of their remittances. It is probable he may bring you a copy of the treaty for your more speedy information. I then presume I shall have no use of the powers you sent me for signing the agreement, since you can do it yourselves more perfectly when you have all the matter before you; and, in that case, I hope the States-General will make no further difficulty of bearing their share in the treaty, if they find they are able to do it, and are convinced the diversion which the Duke of Savoy can make is worth the price he sets on it. When these points are settled, I suppose Mr. Hill may have orders to proceed on his journey to Turin.

Extract of a letter to Mr. Secretary Hedges, forwarded by Mr. Stepney to Mr. Hill. [G. STEPNEY.]

Whitehall, 2nd November, 1703.

Sir,

By the last post I acquainted you with the Queen's pleasure that you should return forthwith into England, and because it is possible that this may reach the Hague before you come from thence, I am ordered to tell you, that the Queen is content that the 300 thousand gilders be employed in arming the Vaudois, in which service none can be so properly and usefully employed as Monsieur Arnaud, and if this matter can't be finally settled before you have an opportunity of coming away for England, you must acquaint the Pensioner that her Majesty desires this may be carried on with all speed, since this will not only be of use to the Duke of Savoy, whose circumstances require speedy succour, but also in consequence to the Cevennois, whose case should not be neglected; but as they deserve to be assisted, and the advantage that may justly be expected is very great, so every opportunity of supporting them ought to be embraced and pursued, and you may assure the Pensioner that, both in the affair of the Cevennois and in all measures that the States will resolve on for the help of the Duke of Savoy, her Majesty will cheerfully concur in, and bear $\frac{2}{3}$ of the expense. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Vienna, 3rd Nov. 1703.

Sir,

Count Tarin [1] is not yet arrived; but he is expected to morrow.

I must retract what I mentioned by last post, of Count Massin being likely to come hither with the character of ambassador from his Royal Highness, that gentleman being still in disgrace, and not allowed to come to Court, which has been forbidden him several years past.

This comes to the Hague by a courier returning to the King of Spain. I am ever,

Sir,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. STEPNEY.

[1] Envoy from the Duke of Savoy to the Court of Vienna.

Vienna, 3rd November, 1703.

Sir,

The courier not being yet despatched, I have further to add, that Count Tarin is arrived with the treaty, and all that belongs to it. He likewise dropped a packet with Mr. Aglionby, directed to his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, wherein was the Duke of Savoy's declaration for the allies, with letters of notification thereof, both for her Majesty and the States-General. Count Tarin tells me his Royal Highness gave him express orders at parting to be very urgent here in having the Emperor's ratification despatched as soon as possible, and notification thereof given immediately into England and Holland, that the subsidies designed him may be got ready. He says Ministers will be sent thither, but cannot yet tell who they are.

My letters from Italy are arrived. Consul Broughton tells me that Colonel Villiers and Captain Courtenay, who were coming this way from Venice, were drowned in the river Piava.

Sir Cloudesley Shovel sailed from Leghorn on the 13th past; but the weather changed the next day, and he is supposed to have bore away for Cagliari in Sardinia.

Mr. Worsley Montague and Mr. Mackay are come hither this evening from Berlin, in the way to Italy. I am ever,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant.

To Mr. Hill. G. STEPNEY.

Whitehall, Nov. 6th, 1703.

Sir,

I have received yours of November 9th, and read it to the committee, who approve of the proposal of furnishing the French refugees' officers with money out of the 300 thousand gilders, to enable them to proceed with all expedition to Savoy; and though you may encourage them to enter into that service by assurances of the Queen's favour and protection, yet it will be very reasonable that they should be paid out of the subsidies to the Duke of Savoy, since they will be immediately in his service, and this he cannot, and probably

will not, scruple, since he is in great want of officers, and has already desired several, as Mr. Aglionby writes, refugees, in Switzerland, who indeed made some difficulty of accepting his proposals, unless they had the Queen's or States' commissions, that is, unless her Majesty, or States, paid them; but if this be settled with the Duke of Savoy, as I have mentioned, and which you will be instructed to do, the objection of these officers is removed in great measure, especially if they are satisfied by you, that the Queen and States will take care that the Duke of Savoy treats them well.

And I must now tell you, that notwithstanding my former letters to call you home, you must stay at the Hague till I send you further instructions, which you shall have by the next post at furthest; and, in the mean time, you must prepare to proceed to Turin with all possible expedition.

And I must desire you to write to Mr. Aglionby this alteration; for I have told him, by former posts, you were sent for home, and have not time to contradict it, and I believe you will do well to give this notice to Count D'Aversberg or otherwise, so as the Duke of Savoy may be acquainted with it. I am,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, Nov. 9, 1703.

Sir,

I hope my letter by the last post came time enough to stop you at the Hague, and that this will find you prepared and ready to pursue your journey to Turin. I have here enclosed her Majesty's instructions which are more adapted to the present circumstances than your former were, and that you will need but little time to speak with the Pensioner and others (as you are therein directed) about the matters of them.

But we still please ourselves with the hopes (which surely are not vain, if your news of Count Staremberg be true), that the Duke of Savoy will be in a condition to concur with us in the attempt upon Toulon, and, therefore, though nothing of this kind be inserted in your instructions, and consequently that you must not mention it in Holland, nor yet even at Turin, till there be a fairer prospect of executing such a de-

sign, and then too you should speak of it only to the Duke himself, and whom he shall appoint, yet you must have this in your thoughts, and, when it is proper, you must propose it to his Highness, and the instructions you already have about this matter may sufficiently guide you in the offers you may make to him to induce him to a vigorous compliance with us in this enterprise. I wish you a good journey, and all success, and happiness, and am most truly,

Your most humble and faithful servant.

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

ANNE R. Instructions for our trusty and well-beloved Richard Hill, Esqre whom we have appointed to be our Envoy Extraordinary to the Duke of Savoy. Given at our Court, at St. James's, the 9th day of November, 1703, in the second year of our reign.

Having made choice of you to go in quality of our Envoy Extraordinary to the Duke of Savoy, (and having received advice that the said Duke has entered into an alliance with the Emperor, and other the allies, for the common safety against the encroachments of France), we have thought fit to give you, on this occasion, the following directions.

You shall, upon receipt of these instructions, discourse with the Pensioner of Holland, and such of the States as you judge proper, upon the subject-matter of them, desiring the concurrence of the States in giving the like instructions to the minister whom they have sent, or shall send, to reside at Turin, and if you find they dislike any part of what we have herein directed, or shall propose any other matter which you shall judge to be conducive to the support of the Duke of Savoy, and the common interest of us and our allies, you are to give notice thereof to us by one of our Secretaries of State; but you are not to stay at the Hague in expectation of our orders thereupon, which we intend to send after you, for we think it for our service that you should go with all the haste you can to Turin, and being arrived there, or wherever you find the

Duke of Savoy, you shall demand an audience of him, and deliver him our letters of credence, and declare to him our great satisfaction in the generous and prudent resolution which he has taken of declaring war against the common enemy of Europe; the great value we have of his person and friendship, which we will, on our part, inviolably maintain, and how steadfastly resolved we are to support him in this war to the uttermost of our power, with such other expressions of our friendship to him as you judge proper.

You shall likewise desire an audience of the Duchess and Duchess-dowager of Savoy, and deliver our letters to them, accompanying the same with such compliments on our part, as are usual and fitting on such occasions, and particularly you shall give the Duchess the real assurances of our kindness as to one so nearly related to us in blood.

You shall take care that the same honours and respects be paid to your character in all places, as have been heretofore shewn to any minister from our predecessors of your character, or to the ministers from France or Spain, especially since the late alliance between them and Savoy, or other crowned heads; and, during your stay at that Court, you shall maintain a good correspondence and intercourse with the ministers of other Princes and States, our friends and allies, residing there.

If upon your arrival there you do not hear that our Envoy at Vienna has, on our part, signed the treaty made between him and the Emperor, you are to assure him of our readiness to concur in it, and particularly that we will be punctual in the payment of such sums of money as are to be paid by us, pursuant to that treaty, and that we are content, for his greater security and satisfaction, to pay two-thirds thereof.

And since the Vaudois may be of great use and service to him, as we have already directed you to concur with the States in sending Monsieur Arnaud at the head of a considerable body of them, so you are to acquaint the Duke with this as what we judged expedient for him, and the most immediate support that we could contrive for him; and you are to press him, for the encouragement of them, and also of the French refugees, to revoke all edicts as have been made against them, and to recall all such as are departed or fled out of his own dominions, whether they be his own subjects or French protestant refugees, and to put them into arms,

and encourage and assist them to march into Dauphiny to the assistance of the Cevennois, sending with them some regular troops as soon as shall be proper, and you shall be earnest with him by all other means to support and favour the Cevennois, as that which may most effectually conduce to the establishing of his own safety against the exorbitant power of France, and you shall give us the earliest notice of what may be expected from the Duke of Savoy for their assistance.

And since we understand that he wants officers to command such troops as he may raise among the French protestant refugees, you may acquaint him that we have ordered several now in our dominions to repair forthwith to him, where we hope they will be received into his service and favour.

And you must press the Duke of Savoy, that both these and the Vaudois which shall be formed into troops be so taken into his service as to be in his pay like his other troops, and paid out of the subsidies which we and the States are to give him; and as this is in itself most reasonable, so we think also it will be greatly advantageous to him, by letting the Cevennois and others, who are persecuted in France for religion, see the likelihood of their being supported by him, and by troops of their own religion.

You are to press the Duke of Savoy to use his utmost endeavours, in such way as he shall judge most proper, to reduce the Elector of Bavaria into the interest of the allies, to which his interest and safety, and the example of the barbarous usage of the Duke of Savoy, should be a sufficient motive and warning to him to avoid the like oppression; but, however, that we, on our part, will also contribute what in us lies to promote so good a work, and if you find any prospect of success in it, you must give us early notice thereof, and what measures are judged most proper for us to take in order to so good an end.

You shall, upon advice with the minister of the Emperor, (and of the States-General, if any such be there), take all proper measures to invite the State of Venice, and the great Duke of Tuscany, to enter into the grand alliance, or into such other alliance as may suit better with the state of their affairs, but yet attain the ends proposed by the other, and to induce them hereunto you shall offer our good offices with

the Emperor to liquidate and ascertain all pretensions which he may have on their territories as Fiefs of the Empire, or otherwise; and you shall also offer our guarantee (in which we doubt not but the States-General will concur) to secure them against all such encroachments, and propose to them a perpetual defensive alliance with them against any such unjust attempts against them.

You shall endeavour to prevent the remittance of money by the subjects of Genoa to the French army in Italy, and in case they continue to do so, and that the Duke of Savoy will concur in it, you may proceed even to threats of treating them as enemies.

Whatever shall occur to you, either at the Hague, or when you are at Turin, that you shall judge expedient for our service you are to give us an account thereof. But if any thing should happen of this kind, which requires an immediate determination, you are in such case to advise with the minister of the States-General, and whatever you and he shall agree on, as fit for us and the States to consent to, you are, on our part, but jointly with the minister of the States, to concur in it, that an opportunity of any such public good may not be lost.

You shall correspond with our ambassadors and ministers employed abroad in other Courts for your better directions and information.

At your return from thence we shall expect from you a perfect and ample narrative of what shall have happened in that Court during your ministry there, with a particular account of the abilities and affections of the ministers, their interests, mutual correspondencies and differences one with another, their dispositions to war or peace, their inclinations to foreign Princes or States, together with all such observations as you shall have been able to make, which may contribute to inform us of the State of that government.

You shall, from time to time, observe and follow such further directions and instructions as you shall receive from one of our principal Secretaries of State, with whom you shall likewise constantly correspond.

A. R.

Whitehall, Nov. 12th, 1703.

Sir,

If this shall find you in Holland, what I have now to

write will not delay your journey to Turin, which, you find by my last, is thought necessary to be pursued with all the haste you can.

You may remember that, besides the number of ships to be adjusted for the next year's service, I told you that it would be convenient to agree also in our convoys, where our trade and that of the Dutch lay together. I have a very short proposal from the Prince's Council, which is, that "The Prince will give orders, if the Dutch will do the same, that our Russian and Eastland convoys shall join with theirs, when they are homeward bound, and the Lisbon-convoys both out and homeward bound."

This you should give to the Pensioner, or such other persons as you have treated with about our maritime affairs, and desire some speedy answer both to this, and the number of ships for next year to be sent to us, for you are not to stay for it. I am, with great truth,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Rotterdam, Nov. $\frac{7}{18}$th, 1703, at noon.

Sir,

I have received your letter of yesterday just now, and do desire you to hasten the King's retinue away with all possible speed. And I do desire his Majesty will please to embark to morrow-evening at the Briel; I will be there, with the yachts, soon after noon. I do take the convoy, with the addition of these two ships, to be very sufficient for his Majesty's security, without any regard to Admiral Callemberg's [1] squadron, and am only sorry this advice came not time enough for his Majesty to embark to night; which, with my service to yourself and all friends, concludes this from,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. ROOKE.[2]

Whitehall, Nov. 19th, 1703.

Sir,

The Queen, being informed that there is a considera-

[1] Dutch Admiral. [2] Admiral Sir George Rooke, Knt.

ble custom imposed by the Duke of Savoy upon our manufactures, has commanded me to write to you to endeavour to get it taken off, or, at least, so moderated as to induce our merchants to settle a trade at Villa-Franca, which as it will be very acceptable to England, so it may also be very advantageous to the Duke's own dominions, and, in this conjuncture, it is very likely the Duke will not be averse to any thing that the Queen can reasonably desire. I hope very soon to write to you more particularly of this matter, when I myself am better instructed in it. But you may remember how very popular a thing it is to clothe the armies of our allies, and it cannot be proposed to any Prince with greater likelihood of success than to the Duke of Savoy, because it may be made very plain to him, that we can do it for him much cheaper than it can be afforded to him from other parts. In the last war he bought it from contractors who had all the materials from France, and, therefore, it is to be hoped, that he will make no difficulty of choosing to be supplied at cheap rates from his friends, rather than at dear rates from his enemy. This, therefore, you are to endeavour to obtain, and if, in order to it, you shall want patterns and prices of what we would furnish, I will send them to you; and though, perhaps, it may be too late to furnish the clothing of this year, yet in this case we wish that you could prevent any contract to be made by the Duke, that may prevent him from taking, and us from vending, our commodities, that the great subsidies which we are to pay him may not help to drain us of our money in specie, which is the greatest evil we have any reason to apprehend in the course of this war. I am, most truly,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Perigrine, at the Briel,
November the $\frac{11}{22}$th, 1703.

Sir,

I have the favour of your letter of last night; and am not surprised at your concern for your disappointment of the service by this change of the wind. I am extremely obliged to your friendly concern for myself; but my intentions being to stay at Rotterdam till after the full of the moon,

to watch any opportunity of a fair wind, I have no thoughts of coming to the Hague till Monday; so that if you will send your man to hire the house only that I lay at, I need give yours no further trouble than devouring your meat and drink. The Swallow is got off without any apparent damage, and the Igger and Newport arrived yesterday at Goree. It is very happy we did not put to sea yesterday. I pray God send us good news of Admiral Callemberg, for he has had a terrible night of it. I am, with most sincere respect and friendship,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. Rooke.

23rd of Nov. 1703.

Sir,

This is to acknowledge the favour of yours from the Hague, of the 13th, and to tell you I have spoken to my Lord Nottingham to despatch your privy seal, and you may be sure I shall be very careful of your particular appointments, and as to any advance of money to the Duke of Savoy upon account of the Queen's part of the subsidies, you will receive very particular instructions from my Lord Nottingham by this post, and whatsoever you find necessary for the public service to be advanced before the treaty be ratified, and consequently, any remittances made pursuant to it, your bills shall be carefully answered.

I am sorry we shall not be able to pass the winter together; but I hope the advantage it will procure to the public will make amends for the particular disappointment of,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. Godolphin.

Whitehall, Nov. 23rd, 1703.

Sir,

Yesterday and to day I received your letters of November $\frac{9}{20}, \frac{12}{23}, \frac{13}{24}, \frac{16}{27}, \frac{19}{30}$; upon which I am commanded to tell

you that, upon your arrival at Turin, you may assure the Duke of Savoy of her Majesty's readiness to ratify the treaty with him on her part; but her Majesty thinks it reasonable, and you must insist upon it, that the Duke should, on his part, explain the number of troops which he will maintain during this war, which should be 15,000 men, or else that he be content with so much less of the subsidies as will be proportionable to the number that shall be wanting of 15,000. Her Majesty does not desire to save the money, but wishes rather, for the interest of the Duke himself, and the allies, that the whole number of 15,000 were complete.

Her Majesty is so sensible of the present pressures under which that Duke labours that she is willing you should advance her proportion, viz. $\frac{2}{3}$ of the 100,000 crowns which, by the treaty, were to be paid at first, and also two months of the subsidies; but because we are not yet assured that the Dutch will pay $\frac{1}{3}$ of the whole 80,000 per month, therefore her Majesty would have you advance only such part of 50,000 crowns per month as the late King paid in the last war (which I think was 30,000 crowns per month; but this I do not exactly know): but if the Dutch will pay $\frac{1}{3}$ of the 80,000 per month, then you may advance $\frac{2}{3}$ of 2 months after that rate; and her Majesty, to satisfy that Duke of her sincere desires to support him, will press the States to concur with her in the whole subsidies, without diminishing any part (unless as I said in default of 15,000 men), or putting the Duke to look for the 30,000 crowns per month from the Emperor, or King of Spain.

And though I may tell you that the Queen will earnestly press the Emperor to ratify the treaty, yet since he makes many difficulties, especially of some parts which are to be given to the Duke of Savoy, as inconvenient and prejudicial if separated from Milan, you must do what in you lies to induce the Duke of Savoy to such a compromise in these matters, that the treaty may not be lost to the prejudice of both parties and all the allies; and, if Count D'Aversberg has been unreasonably liberal, the Duke of Savoy should not insist too strictly on the letter of the treaty, and thereby, hazard or delay the ratification; and you may assure the Duke of Savoy, that her Majesty is resolved to send early next spring a great fleet into the Mediterranean, that shall have time, as well as strength, to support him in this alliance, and

this should be a prevailing argument not to lose time in perfecting it when he sees how generously her Majesty resolves, by all possible methods, to assist and defend him. I am, most unfeignedly,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, Dec. 10th, 1703.

Sir,

I have received yours of December $\frac{2nd.}{13th.}$ The enclosed memorial I have given to Secretary Hedges to speak to Monsieur Vryberge of that matter, for, hitherto, we have had no answer from Holland.

You will find in your first instructions a paragraph by which you are directed to press the Duke of Savoy to come into the grand alliance: but then, indeed, we did not know certainly, that he would come into any alliance, which he has since done; and there is no doubt but for his own greater security he will desire to be admitted into it in form, and as her Majesty will readily agree to it, so you may, as you see it proper, propose it to him.

I hope you will have received my letter of November 23rd, by which you will see you are empowered to supply money to the Duke of Savoy; and, since the Dutch minister goes so well provided, the Duke of Savoy will be sufficiently furnished for his present occasions. I have enclosed a copy of that part of my letter which relates to money, lest the original may not come to your hands.

You will hear that the Emperor has made some alterations in the Savoy-treaty: neither those, nor the treaty itself, have been sent hither, though Mr. Secretary Hedges has had an account of them from Mr. Whitworth; one of which is, that the Emperor requires the Duke of Savoy (after the places yielded to him shall be subdued) to act in Italy in assistance of the Emperor's forces for the reduction of Milan; upon which I am ordered to tell you, that such an article would be very inconvenient, as thwarting those measures of entering with an army into France, which are judged here most for the common interest of the allies, and if it were really best for

Savoy to act in Italy, yet this treaty will be public, and this would be to give our enemies warning where we intend to attack them, which would be to frustrate in great measure the use of a fleet, as her Majesty intends, in the Mediterranean; for then France would have no apprehensions of it as if we meant any such attempt on that coast as would, by the assistance of Savoy, be very considerable: so that her Majesty wishes that the article for ascertaining any future operations were wholly omitted.

What I wrote to you about reducing the customs on our cloth, I believe is, in great measure, useless, for I have not heard any more from the person who proposed it, and I have since looked upon the treaty made many years ago by Sir John Finch, and, to my apprehension, the impositions are settled at as reasonable rates as can be expected; only some immunities, which were but temporary, should be renewed, and you may, upon perusing that treaty, find some things that may be reasonably asked for our advantage, and will not, probably, be denied. So that all that I can see at present to be wished is, that the Duke of Savoy may be persuaded to clothe his army with our manufacture, which I understand will be better and cheaper to him than any that he can have from other parts, and this will encourage our merchants to send our commodities thither, and begin a trade which, in time, will increase to the mutual benefit of both. I am,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, Dec. 17th, 1703.

Sir,

I have received yours of the $\frac{4}{15}$th, which I have read at the Committee, and have no more to say about the payments to the Duke of Savoy than what I writ to you November 23rd, and December 10th, by which you will see you have authority to supply the Duke's occasions, and though you must pay only after the rate of 50,000 crowns per month between us and the Dutch, unless the Dutch will bear $\frac{1}{3}$ of the 80,000, and until they agree to do this last, yet you may advance the more monthly payments after the proportion

of 50,000, if the Duke's affairs require it, which will, for the present, be as useful to him, and, in a little time, this matter will be settled.

It is not doubted but Monsieur Arnaud will deserve her Majesty's favour by his good services, and then he need not doubt neither of his reward. I am, most truly,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Dec. 21st, 1703. O. S.

Sir,

I desired Mr. Lowndes[1] to acquaint you, by the last post, that I had ordered the payments of your bills drawn upon Sir James Bateman, and that, by this post, you should have remittances for Savoy, which has been accordingly done to the sum of 200,000 *piastre*, as *Galdy* words it.

You will have a very just foundation of valuing to his Royal Highness this readiness of the Queen in supplying him, the treaty being but just arrived here yesterday, with Count Wratislaw[2] and Count Maffei,[3] not yet signed, nor so much as examined, and, consequently, no authority for issuing this money, nor no other justification for doing it, but that every thing must be ventured to preserve and accommodate an ally so valuable as the Duke of Savoy, from whose friendship England has entertained great hopes of very considerable advantages. The wind has been fair these three days for the King of Spain, but is now changed again; if we don't hear of his arrival within 24 hours, I doubt we shall be delayed yet another moon, which is not [at] all convenient. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

P.S. If your old acquaintance, the Elector of Bavaria, could be influenced by any assurances you are able to give either to the Duke of Savoy, or more directly to himself, we should not think much to part with a good thumping sum of

1 Secretary to the Lords of the Treasury.

2 Envoy Extraordinary to the British Court from Vienna.

3 Minister of the Duke of Savoy.

money to bring him into the interest of the allies, and make his peace with the Emperor.

Hague, Dec. the $\frac{12}{23}$rd, 1703.

Sir,

I have received the favour of your letter of the 16th instant, N.S., from Francfort, for which I thank you; and must assure you I have, since I saw you, been fatigued almost out of my life, the late dismal tempest[1] having almost ruined my concern at Helvoetsluys. It drove the Veigoe, Rochester, Swan, and Newport, with above twenty of the transport ships, from their anchors, ashore in the country, where some of them will never get off. It put the Veigoe upon the West pier-head, at Helvoetsluys, where the men had just time to save their lives, and down she sunk. The rest of her Majesty's ships are got off and safe. The Russell was drove from her anchors with Sir Cloudesley Shovel, and, after beating over the Hynder sand, put ashore about three miles to the westward of Helvoetsluys. We have got out all her guns and stores, and have some hopes of saving her hull. We have yet no news of the rest of the ships with Sir Cloudesley Shovel, nor of Admiral Callemberg. The enclosed account will tell you what of our misfortunes were known when the last letters came away, though I am apprehensive fresh accounts will drop in daily. There are above 150 sail of merchant ships lost in the Downs and Yarmouth sands, with their men: the poor Prince of Hesse D'Armstadt has lost all his servants but five, and all he has in the world, in a ship driven out of the Downs, and lost upon the Fly-island, on the north coast of this country. I have always said the making our great ships so familiar with the winter season would be the ruin of our country, at one time or other; and though the nation seems to be inclinable to struggle through this calamity, yet if the practice be continued, I dare be bold to say, this misfortune will be repeated.

I have been very busy in repairing our little embarkation, and hope all will be in a readiness again, in 6 or 8 days, to attend his catholic Majesty, though we have had so many im-

[1] See Appendix B.

pediments, that I begin to doubt our success. I wish you well with all my soul, and the honest gentlemen that accompany you, which, with my most humble service, concludes me, in true esteem and friendship,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. Rooke.

Whitehall, January 4th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.[1]

Sir,

Count Maffei's indisposition since his arrival here, has hindered me from seeing him till yesterday: he tells me that his master will have 22,000 men next spring, which will be sufficient to answer that part of your instructions as to the number which he was to maintain in case the Queen and States paid the subsidies stipulated by the treaty. Besides these regular troops, he will also have 4000 Vaudois, to whom he will furnish ammunition and bread in time of service, and allow them all the booty they can get. These are to act separate from his army, by incursions into the French dominions, which will be a considerable support to the Camisards, by diverting the forces of France, which otherwise would be employed against them. You will easily be able to inform yourself, whether this calculation of the army by Count Maffei be right, and such as may be depended on. I took this occasion to tell him, that though the Vaudois might do great damage to France, yet surely, if the Duke of Savoy did direct the operations of his army towards France, this would be his own best security, by necessitating France to draw his army, or great part of it, out of Italy, and would most sensibly affect France, by bringing the war into France itself, which would soon incapacitate France from carrying it on, whereas we had found by experience, both in the last and this war, that, the seat of it being out of the French dominions, the King of France, by the supplies of money

[1] What is included in this and following letters between inverted commas was written in cipher; respecting the deciphering of which see the preface.

which his own country could afford him, would be able to continue it long, and with a fair prospect of a good issue of it. I do but mention this particular, because all that can be said on this subject you are fully apprized of, and should improve upon all occasions

"I then took notice to him of the letter which the Duke of "Savoy had writ to the Elector of Bavaria to exhort him to "come into the alliance, and asked him what answer his Royal "Highness had received to it? He said, he knew of none." Upon which "I told him that the time of action" would soon come, and that no time should be lost in "such a negotiation, "for it was better to know even a negative than to be amus-"ed with a treaty" which would prevent all the "necessary "preparations and resolutions for prosecuting the war, and "that though the Duke of Savoy might give very good reason "to the Elector of Bavaria to suspect and fear the French; "yet" it would be necessary "for him to know also what he "might expect from the Emperor and allies," and it could not be expected "that the Emperor should send terms to him, or "even communicate his intentions to the Duke of Savoy, or "the Queen herself; yet it would be some satisfaction to him "to know that the Queen and the States-General would, on "their part, not only agree to such subsidies as might be reason-"able and necessary for his support, but would also use their "best endeavours to obtain from the Emperor such gratifica-"tions to him, as should be more valuable than any offers France "could make, as being such as he might depend on, that "they should be performed to him; whereas, those of France "were" likely never to be accomplished; "because, if France "did not succeed in the war, he could not perform them, and "if" he did succeed "he would not be willing, and no power "in Europe could then enable Bavaria to extort them. But "in order to the speedy conclusion of such a negotiation no "method seemed to me so probable to procure the desired "effect as that the Elector of Bavaria should entrust either "the Duke of Savoy, or the Queen with his demands, to "which the Queen would not only obtain a speedy answer, "but also" endeavour to procure as much "of them, as her "Majesty should judge to be reasonable. It is very likely "Maffei may give the Duke of Savoy some account of this dis-"course, and the Duke will be better prepared to receive the "applications which the Queen would have you make to his

"Royal Highness to find some way of sending to the Elector "of Bavaria, and pressing him to explain what are those things "he would expect; that we may either give him satisfaction, "or have the satisfaction ourselves of knowing that no accom- "modation can be expected, and providing accordingly: and "considering how much the Elector of Bavaria and the Em- "peror are embittered one against the other, how lamentable "a state the Emperor's affairs are reduced to, how much the "Elector of Bavaria's hopes are enhanced by his success, and "that, probably, he aims at no less than the imperial crown "itself, or, at least, more than the Emperor can reasonably "be asked to grant, and, consequently, that there is very little "prospect of success in this negotiation; as you are to desire "the Duke of Savoy not to be amused with any overtures "from Bavaria, if he should make any, so as to neglect his "duty and timely preparations, so you may also assure his "Royal Highness that her Majesty will go on in every thing "relating to the war, as if she expected no overtures from "Bavaria, and will exhort the Emperor to do so too, and the "other allies will be pressed to be early and vigorous in their "preparations, for they can have no expectation of the Elector "of Bavaria as not knowing of any attempt to gain him." I am,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, Jan. 14th, $170\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

I have yours of the 1st and 6th, N.S., which I have read to the Queen, at the Committee, and am commanded to tell you, that since the Duke of Savoy has above 20,000 men, and of them has offered to the Emperor, in an explication of the articles, to maintain 14,000 in the field, her Majesty does not think it necessary for you to insist on the 20,000, nor even the 15,000, as you were formerly directed to do, as a condition on which you were to pay the subsidies; but you are to pay the subsidies without requiring any express article for the number of troops, her Majesty being willing to acquiesce in what the Emperor does upon the Duke's offer of 14,000.

I do not find that the States will scruple $\frac{1}{3}$ of the whole

80,000 crowns per month; perhaps their minister may have already instructions for that purpose. But if there be still any difficulty in it, the Duke of Marlborough, who goes to morrow to Holland, has orders to press the States to agree to $\frac{1}{3}$ of the 80,000 crowns, and to direct the payment of it accordingly; and his Grace is likewise to press them to pay their proportion directly to the Duke of Savoy, and not to divert any part thereof to payment of the Duke of Savoy's troops immediately, this being not proper or decent towards his Royal Highness, and extremely difficult in itself, if not impracticable.

You will have heard that the treaty is altered in many points by the Emperor, and, with those alterations, ratified; but that ratification not accepted by the Duke of Savoy, but returned by the Duke of Savoy with some modifications of those alterations, by which means it is impossible for the Queen to ratify the treaty, though, when it shall be settled, she resolves to do it; and since, in that treaty, there is nothing that immediately concerns the Queen but the subsidies which you have orders to pay, and which will be the best evidence and assurance to the Duke of Savoy of her Majesty's concurrence in the treaty, her Majesty does not think it necessary that you, and the States'-minister, should make any separate convention with the Duke of Savoy, but let the matter rest till the treaty be finally adjusted between the Emperor and the Duke, and then the Queen will come into it in form; and, in the mean time, proceed in the payments required by it. And that you may, from time to time, be supplied for that purpose, you should send an account how you have disposed of the 200,000 crowns already remitted to you, and of the other money which you may have taken up upon credit, if you have so taken any, which bills will be paid upon notice from you.

Count Maffei having given me an account of the alterations made by the Emperor, and desiring her Majesty's assistance and good offices therein, I must acquaint you with them, though you will probably be fully informed of them where you are, because I must acquaint you with what her Majesty has thereupon resolved.

Alterations made by the Emperor.	*Modifications made by the Duke of Savoy.*
By the 2nd article of the	The Duke of Savoy has in-

treaty, the Emperor is obliged to send 20,000 men to join the Duke of Savoy, who is not obliged to any definite number. This the Emperor has left out.	sisted on the 20,000 from the Emperor; but has explained the number he will maintain in the field, and obliged himself to 14,000.
By the 6th, the Emperor yields the Lomellin with its dependencies. The Emperor has left out dependencies.	The Duke of Savoy has restrained dependencies to 5 villages only.
By the 7th, several villages are granted which may not properly be dependent, but are necessary for a communication between Vercelli and La Lomellina. These the Emperor has denied.	The Duke of Savoy is contented with only 8 villages, and, if there should be more that lie convenient for him, he is content to give others equivalent to the Emperor in exchange.
By the 14th article, the Emperor is obliged not only to maintain the right of the Duke of Savoy to the succession to the Spanish Monarchy after failure of the house of Austria, pursuant to the will of Philip the 4th, but to grant him the investiture thereof now, to take place when the case shall happen. The Emperor has left out and denies the present investiture.	The Duke of Savoy insists upon it.
By the 18th, the Emperor is obliged to procure this treaty to be ratified by the whole Empire within 3 months.	The Duke of Savoy insists on the ratification by the Empire; but, instead of three months, is content with 3

This the Emperor has left out.	months after the Diet shall be resettled at Ratisbon.
By the 2nd secret article, the Vigevinasco, or an equivalent being to be yielded to the Duke of Savoy for the loss of his troops which the French seized.	
This the Emperor has left out.	And the Duke of Savoy acquiesces, leaving it to the Emperor's generosity to make him reparation.
By the 3rd, if in the course of the war the Duke of Savoy loses any of his own territories, and at the Peace they should not be restored to him, the Emperor obliges himself to indemnify him for the same.	
This the Emperor has left out.	And the Duke of Savoy acquiesces, being willing to run the fate of the allies.

This is the present state of this affair, as Count Maffei represents it; but whatever the difficulties be in which he prays her Majesty to interpose, he assures the Queen that his master will proceed to act with the utmost vigour, and neglect no opportunity in expectation of what issue these disputes may have.

Her Majesty is so sensible of the mischief which may arise from any obstruction to this treaty, that my Lord Marlborough has orders to press the States to join with her in such representations to the Emperor as may put a speedy end to these disputes, and Mr. Stepney, who is returning to Vienna, has the like instructions; and you may, therefore, assure the Duke of Savoy of her Majesty's good offices; but, at the same time, represent to him the difficulties that must be expected, that you may prepare him on his part to such a compliance as probably will be necessary, because it is but reasonable.

For it seems impossible, in the Emperor's circumstances, to join constantly 20,000 men with the army of Savoy; possibly the common interest may not always require it: for it may be

more advantageous for the armies to act in a different [way]. This depends upon accidents and the measures of the enemy as well as our own; and, therefore, though it may be proper for allies to ascertain the respective quotas, yet it is improper to ascertain the manner of their operations by a standing treaty. You know the Queen wishes nothing more than that the Duke of Savoy would carry the war into France, and the junction of 20,000 men to his army would effectually enable him to do it, and yet the Queen is so sensible of the objections to the Emperor's stipulating the addition of so great a number, that you are not to press the Duke of Savoy to an immediate invasion of France, because it may be absolutely necessary at present to carry on the war another way; though I must say, that you are not so to understand this as if the Queen had changed her opinion, for whenever you find it seasonable and fit, you are most earnestly to urge the Duke of Savoy to enter into France; and it is extremely to be wished that there might be such an opportunity this summer, for you may assure the Duke of Savoy her Majesty resolves to have a great fleet this summer early in the Mediterranean, and with as many marines as are allotted to the ships, which you properly call land-forces too.

The next thing that is of great difficulty is, that the cessions to the Duke of Savoy should be ratified by the Empire even after the Diet shall be re-established at Ratisbon: you know the Emperor's circumstances, and were they much better, this is a point almost insuperable. Mr. Stepney says, too, that it is not necessary to perfect the Duke of Savoy's title to the places yielded to him by this treaty; but when the house of Austria have released to him all their right, and England and Holland shall become the guarantees of this cession, and, consequently, that a further security seems not necessary, and such a further security as is asked is not proper for the Emperor to promise, and seems impossible for him to perform, it is hoped that the Duke of Savoy will acquiesce in this matter.

I have not yet heard of Mr. Leers, of Rotterdam, whom you mention. I am, with great truth,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, Jan. 18th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

Since my last, of the 14th, I have had some discourse with Count Maffei to acquaint him with the Queen's readiness to support the Duke of Savoy in his pretensions at Vienna, and with her Majesty's orders to the Duke of Marlborough and Mr. Stepney; but withal to let him understand how difficult, and, indeed, impracticable, it would be to obtain some things which the Duke of Savoy required, particularly the ratification of the treaty by the Empire, and the junction of 20,000 imperial troops to the army of his Royal Highness. He told me he believed his master would not finally insist on the first, but content himself with the guarantee of England and the States-General; and for the second, after I had shewn how almost impossible it would be in the Emperor's present circumstances to do it, and how useless the rest of his army in Italy would be after 20,000 were taken out of it and added to Savoy, and that, therefore, the Queen could not tell how to press it, though she passionately desired it as the means by which the Duke of Savoy might be enabled to enter France, which was the surest way of bringing the war to a speedy and good issue, he seemed to think his master would acquiesce in such a proportion as could, from time to time, be spared, so as to render the operations in Italy most prejudicial to the French, only in order to this he said, the Emperor ought to be obliged to recruit and complete his army, which I agreed was most reasonable, for her Majesty did not give subsidies to the Duke of Savoy for recruits to the Emperor's army, but to augment the forces that should be employed against France, and, therefore, her Majesty would certainly be as earnest as the Duke himself with the Emperor to have such an army so complete in Italy as might be sufficient, with the assistance of the Duke of Savoy, to drive the French out of Italy, and it might be presumed, that the Emperor himself took this as much to heart as could be wished, for we see, that for the sake of Italy, he has almost lost his own territories in Germany. "Upon "my mentioning the Queen's desire to carry the war into "France, he took occasion to tell me the difficulty and little "advantage of entering Dauphiny, and how infinitely better "it would be to attempt Provence, in order to which it were "necessary to preserve Nizza against the French, which

"though it could resist one, after it should be attacked, yet "our fleet only could effectually secure it, and contribute to "another design of the greatest moment, which was Toulon, "which his Royal Highness would attack by land, whilst the "fleet did so by sea; and he hoped we should have some "troops on board to co-operate. I told him he might de- "pend on a great fleet next year early in the Straits; that it "would have between three and four thousand marines, which "were troops on board, and that he was so much in the right "in this project, that nothing could be so fatal to France; "and I entreated him not to mention it to any person here, "but such as you may guess. I tell you this for your" encouragement to lay hold on a fit opportunity; "and since the "Duke of Savoy is already so disposed to it, perhaps you may "save the 50,000 pounds which you were ordered to offer to "reduce it; not but that every thing on our side, that is ne- "cessary and will conduce to the execution of this design, "should be done." I am

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, Jan. 28th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

I congratulate your safe arrival at Turin, of which your letter, which I received two days ago, brought me the news; you were so happily welcomed thither by the account of Staremberg's joining the Duke of Savoy, that I hope it is a good omen of your success in all your transactions there.

I writ to you at large on the 4th inst. upon a subject to which I have this only to add, "that, by the accounts from "Germany of the Elector's great indignation against the "French, this seems to be a good time to press him to come "into the alliance, and, therefore, should be improved. The "occasion of his displeasure was, that he had released the "King of Prussia's troops, and sent an order for it to the "governor of Ulm; the Governor refused it without the "French General's consent, who denied it, saying it would "not be for his master's interest, and we have reason to "think that he is inclined to an accommodation."

I have not mentioned this to Count Maffei, which I tell

you, that the Duke of Savoy may not think amiss of his minister here, that he hears nothing of it from him. I am

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Jan. 28th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

By yours of the $\frac{4}{15}$th, from Turin, (which gives us the only comfortable news we have had a great while from beyond sea) I find you got thither before the remittances of 200,000 crowns, payable to your order, in money of Piemont; or, indeed, before they could be got thither, not being sent from hence, but upon our 22nd of Dec. I begin, now, to be sorry you have so good credit, for fear you should have had occasion to use it before our remittances come to your hands, and I doubt we must pay greater rates for what bills you draw upon us here.

The Duke of Savoy's being at the head of an army every day increasing, as I hope, is no small comfort to us, and though our fleet be detained still at Spithead, by contrary winds, yet it is in such a readiness as that, humanly speaking, it cannot fail of being as early in the Mediterranean as the season will permit them to sail from Lisbon.

I have nothing more but to assure you of my being, ever,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

Whitehall, February 8th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

I have received yours of January 2nd, 7th, 11th, S. V., and read them to the Queen at the Committee. Her Majesty had before stopt the French officers coming from Ireland, as was designed, in order to go to Savoy. But though the Duke of Savoy has no occasion of officers, but of men, and so is unwilling to be burdened with those who are not needful, yet I am ordered to ask you, whether a regiment of French officers and soldiers would be received into the Duke of Savoy's pay; for if his Royal Highness should ap-

prove it, we would endeavour to form for him such a regiment, and probably might succeed in it, and might also send them on board our fleet into the Straits; but it will be impossible for us to send such a number of troops with our fleet as you mention, (though it is certainly what would be for our interest, if we were able), nor any but those which are marines.

When the Duke of Savoy's ministers told you what you write in yours of January 2nd, about the "Elector of Bavaria," it is probable they had not heard what I writ to you in mine of January 28th, so that it is hoped, that it may yet succeed; at least it should not be given over.

Your answer to Hugnetan was very just and proper, and we impatiently wait for a further account of what you writ, in cipher, January $\frac{7}{18}$th.

I need say no more of the treaty between the Emperor and the Duke of Savoy than I have writ in former letters. I am, ever,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

P.S. The King of Spain sailed on the 6th, but could get no further than St. Helen's before the wind changed. It is to day northerly.

Feb. 8th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

I have the favour of yours of the $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}^{\text{th}}_{\text{nd}}$, of Jan., giving me an account that you have drawn bills upon Mr. Fox for 200,000 crowns, which you have paid to the use of the Duke of Savoy, pursuant to the authority you had from me, which I cannot, nor must not, disown, though I find we lose at least £1,000 sterling by your not staying for the remittances of the same sum of 200,000 crowns which I sent you from hence upon the 21st of Dec.; but I am satisfied they could not possibly reach you timely enough to avoid this inconvenience; so I complain of nothing but the unluckiness of it, though Mr. Lowndes does not acquiesce so easily. By this accident you will have in your hands wherewithal to satisfy all the Duke of Savoy can demand of us in pursuance of the treaty, supposing it ratified, to which I don't yet see any

certain advances, and, consequently, this money is all paid without any solid authority, and only *sur la bonne foy*, which may serve to let his Royal Highness see we are not very backward, or unwilling to engage in his interests, and your conversation with Hugnetan is enough to let him see we shall not be very willing to depart from them. I have seen your letter, in cipher, to my lord Nottingham, and cannot help thinking the other adventure, which that letter mentions, deserves all your encouragement; but I ask your pardon for giving you any hints of this kind, to whom they will be as needless as for me to repeat the assurances of my being, always, &c.

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

Whitehall, February 15th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

I have received yours, with the project of a treaty enclosed, which I have read to her Majesty at the Committee, and her Majesty still thinks, that there is no need of a particular treaty, as I have formerly writ to you, and you will see by the measures the Queen has taken to obtain an accommodation between the Emperor and the Duke of Savoy in the points in dispute between them.

And her Majesty thinks, that the prohibition of commerce may be justly and usefully insisted on; for besides the other reasons, which are obvious, and have induced the rest of the allies to do it, this would be such an encouragement to our merchants to begin a trade with the Duke of Savoy's dominions as would, in time, be very advantageous to him and his subjects as well as to us, and, at present, would be a means to supply him with materials for clothing his army better and cheaper than he can have from France.

What you propose of favour to the Vaudois is very proper, and you are already instructed in that matter to insist upon it.

That the Duke of Savoy should have the command of the Imperial troops joined with him is very just and reasonable; but it is most proper for the Duke's minister at Vienna to press, and Mr. Stepney will assist him in it, being ordered so to do. I am

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, Feb. 22nd, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

The Prussian ambassador having desired the Queen to give you directions to correspond with his master's ministers in Switzerland, and at Geneva, I send you here enclosed an extract of his letter to me on that subject by the Queen's command, who would have you comply with what he desires in it. I am

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, Feb. 22nd, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

I have received yours of the 5th, 8th, 12th inst., and I am commanded to tell you, that no mention being made in the treaty with the Emperor of any abatement of subsidies in proportion as the places yielded to Savoy shall be conquered, her Majesty would not have you insist upon it, but go on in paying, jointly with the States, the monies specified in that treaty, which you see, by my former letters, her Majesty hopes may be so accommodated as that both the Emperor and Duke of Savoy may agree to sign it, and then her Majesty will do so too, and there will be no need of a particular treaty between her Majesty, the States, and his Royal Highness; only, as you observe in yours of the 12th, you will improve this generous proceeding of her Majesty to the gaining of his Royal Highness into the grand alliance, the advantage of our trade, and the vending our manufactures, which, as I have writ in other letters, will be most effectually done by a prohibition of commerce with France, and, lastly, to the interest of the Vaudois.

I am likewise to acquaint you that her Majesty has again ordered Mr. Stepney to press the Emperor to recruit his armies in Italy; nothing will be wanting on her Majesty's part to shew her true concern for the support, and for all the interests, of the Duke of Savoy.

"In case the French should attack Nice by sea, her Majesty
"will relieve it by her fleet, and because it is possible they may
"attempt it, before it would venture into the Mediterranean
"in respect of the season, the Duke of Savoy should have a
"vessel always ready at Genoa to sail from thence to Sir

"George Rooke, at Lisbon. For, if the Duke of Savoy and "you send him notice that Nice is, or certainly will be, at- "tacked, Sir George Rooke hath orders to sail immediately "thither. If he should be come into the Mediterranean he "will send to you, by the way of Genoa, advice where he "may, on such occasion, be found."

I have told this to Count Maffei, as, also, that the Queen will not insist on any abatement of subsidies. I am extremely obliged to you for the part you take in what concerns me. I will endeavour to deserve your friendship, for I am, truly,

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

An extract of this letter was sent by Mr. Hill to Sir George Rooke, the 29th March, &c. 1704, N.S.

Feb. 25th, 170$\frac{5}{4}$, S.V.

Sir,

I received the favour of a letter from you by the last post; but, not having it about me, I cannot repeat the date. You are very particular about the different value of the crown, which is a matter you understand much better than I can pretend to do, and, therefore, I am sure you will do what is best for the Queen's service, without my giving you the trouble of any directions. I find by Count Maffei and by Galdy, that you have made use of most of the 200,000 crowns remitted to you, for the replacing of what you had taken up there upon your credit, which is certainly right; but I was afraid the remittance would not have reached you timely enough for it. Count Maffei, upon this, presses much for another remittance, which I intend to comply with, as soon as we have any farther letters from you; for this I am now very well enabled by the passing of the annuity bill, and the plain prospect before us, that the supplies for this year will be effectually 4,000,000 sterling. This is a great sum; but we shall find ways to spend it all, as you will see. One Flotard, a French refugee, sent last summer, from hence, to the Cevennes,[1] from whence he pretends to have brought an account of their posture, whether true or not God knows; this man has lately

[1] See Appendix C.

been at the Hague, in discourse with the Pensioner, and the Duke of Marlborough, and has, by them, been encouraged to go to Turin, and to negotiate a method of assisting the Cevennois; he writes to me from the Hague, of the 26th, N.S., that he was just then setting out for Turin; by the next post I will send you his letter to me, which will more fully inform you of his plan, and I suppose that he will go near to be with you as soon as this.

We have here a strong easterly wind, by the help of which we have no doubt but the King of Spain is, at this hour, in Lisbon. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

February 29th, $170\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

"You know very well the state of our fleet, the losses "we have sustained in the late storm, both of ships and men, "the further hazards to which it will be exposed by being "abroad, especially so remote as in the Mediterranean; you "also must be sensible that the French have been repairing "their ships, and will not fail to take all opportunities for "their advantage when our strength may happen to be further "diminished and their own improved; you know, also, how "difficult it is, in England, to keep long a secret, and how "easy it is for our enemies to disappoint our attempts if de-"layed, and they have not only notice of our designs, but have "time, also, to take proper measures to prevent them; her Ma-"jesty is also sensible of the difficulties with which the Duke "of Savoy hath to struggle, especially at the beginning, he him-"self not being prepared for war, nor the Emperor in a con-"dition to do all that either could be wished, or is really ne-"cessary for the support of the war in Italy, in such manner "as the Duke of Savoy will think requisite to enable him to "execute what her Majesty desires him now to do, which is, "that he would attempt Toulon this year. What I have writ "is the ground of her Majesty's earnest pressure, and should "also induce the Duke of Savoy to concur in it, since it is ap-"parent that, till it be done, he cannot be safe, and unless it "be done this year, it is not likely, for the reasons I have "mentioned, that it can be done at any other, or that we can "be sure of having always such a fleet in the Mediterranean "as will protect that place from insults by sea. I find, by

"Count Maffei, notwithstanding what I told you in mine of "Jan. 18th, of the Duke of Savoy's thoughts of attempting "Toulon, he does not think it consistent with his Highness's "circumstances to do it this year, and, therefore, you must "try your skill to surmount all the objections which may be "expected from him, and offer to him all the motives which "may induce him to it. You may let him know what I have "here writ of the reasons, and of the necessity of not delaying "it, and what else occurs to you on this" subject. "You "may tell him, that the troops which shall be necessary for it, "of which he will be the proper judge, need not march by land; "they shall be embarked on board of our fleet at Nizza, where "they may be kept, until the arrival of our fleet, unsuspected, "under a pretence of securing that place against the French "who are supposed to design to attack it by sea and land; that "we shall have on board our fleet 2000 marines to concur in "the land service: that we will have 20 pieces of cannon with "harness for men to draw them, four mortars, besides our "bomb-ships, and spare arms for such of the French in those "parts as will join with us; by all which his Royal Highness "will see that great part of what is requisite for this service "will be provided, and he will need to add only such things as "he shall judge wanting for it, and, lastly, that her Majesty "will, for his further gratification in case of success, give him "50 thousand pounds, as you were ordered to offer by your "instructions of" July 26th; "and the diversion that this will "give to the French, and the astonishment it will be to all "France, will be more effectual to the security of the Duke "of Savoy against the French armies now employed against "him than double the number of forces, which this service "will require, would be in any other place, and that the "troops will not be long employed on this service, but soon "brought back to Nizza again; for we do not pretend to keep "Toulon, but destroy it and the ships there. By the next "post I will send you a plan and description of Toulon." I am

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

March 3rd, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

I have received yours of $\frac{4}{15}$th, and $\frac{8}{19}$th, of Feb. and you will see, by my last, of which I enclose a copy, how ex-

tremely welcome they were, and I have nothing to add in answer to your last, but that "his Royal Highness may de- "pend upon all that I mentioned on our part, both for the se- "curity of Nice and the attempt on Toulon; only I must "observe to you, that, though there may be some difficulty "and real inconvenience in embarking 5 or 6,000 men on "board of our fleet, (though Sir G. Rooke should take with "him into the Mediterranean some transport-ships, as he will "be ordered to do, and less than that number will not be suf- "ficient for this attempt), yet we apprehend his Highness will "find greater difficulty in marching his troops by land, and "there will be still greater difficulty in adjusting the meeting "of our fleet and these troops at the same time, without which "the attempt cannot be made with probability of success; for "either will alarm the French, and, thereupon, they will pre- "pare for a defence, which they cannot so well make if they "are surprised with a fleet and army at once. I do not say "this to divert his Highness from such measures as he thinks "best; but to propose another method of effecting this great "enterprise, if the other should be impracticable, and that the "preference may be given to that which is easiest and most "effectual, of which his Royal Highness is to judge, and be- "cause the 50 thousand pounds which you are to offer, when "you find it necessary, depend on the success.

"Your proposal, in yours of the $\frac{4}{15}$th, is entirely approved "of, and what you desire will be done, viz. the commissions "by the next post: the money you expend in it will be al- "lowed, nay the Queen is content to bear two thirds if the "States-General scruple one half. The frigates, &c., [will be] "sent with all expedition, with orders to follow your orders, "and shall bring 500 fire-locks, and as many bayonets, with "20 halberts. It is observed here, that the letters from Paris "take notice of the Savoy-ambassador's being still there. You "are not to press for his revocation, lest it should look like "suspicion; but it is wished he were recalled." You do ex- tremely well to observe the English physician lately come to Turin. In all probability not only the King of Spain, but the convoy also, with the last troops, is safely arrived at Lis- bon, for the wind has been constantly fair since their depar- ture. I am

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, March 3rd, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

You may easily believe that I have not read your letters, in cipher, to the whole Cabinet-council; but, for the future, I desire you to send all matters of this kind which require secrecy, in a distinct letter, and, at the same time, another letter, though you have nothing to say, but that nothing has occurred worth the writing, that I may have a letter to shew. I am

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

March the 3rd, 170$\frac{3}{4}$, S. V.

Sir,

This is chiefly to tell you, that the letter which I mentioned in my last to have had from a French refugee at the Hague, now on his way to Turin, and named Flotard, not being, at present, in my hands I shall not be able to send it you till next post, which will be time enough for the affair, since I cannot look upon [his] to be so solid as your proposal, in cipher, to my Lord Nottingham, which I have seen, as also his answer to you by this night's post. You may depend upon what he says in that answer, as to all that relates to my province, and I hope your desires will be as well complied with in all the other particulars. Your brethren of the Admiralty have not escaped this sessions of Parliament without some of the usual complaints against that office; nor, indeed, has any other office fared much better in this latter part of the sessions, which has been uneasy enough; but the supplies are effectual and finished, the last money-bill being this day ordered to be engrossed. We are hourly expecting the news of the King of Spain's safe arrival at Lisbon, and the consequences of it. The fair wind, having lasted sufficiently to carry him thither, is now as favourable to give us that satisfaction; but I don't know why I trouble you with this, since you will hear it sooner over land. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

Whitehall, March 7th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$, S. V.

Sir,

You will, with this, receive the commissions, and I here enclose a duplicate of my last. "The two frigates, ap-"pointed to follow your orders, are the Mary-Galley, and "Lyme, the commander is Captain Dolman; the arms will be "on board of them to morrow, and they will sail with all ex-"pedition, for the wind is fair. Sir Cloudesley Shovel tells "me, that though there are great shoals over against Port "*Cette* yet there are passages well known to good pilots, and "deep water near the shore, so that ships may land men with "great ease, which I tell you, that you may get such pilots, "if possible, against the arrival of these frigates at Villa-"Franca. The Duke of Marlborough thinks there will be no "need of land-mortars, or spare arms for Toulon, there being "bomb-vessels with the fleet; so that there will be sent only "carriages for great guns, on which our ship-cannons may be "mounted, and harness for men to draw them." We have news, by a ship arrived at Plymouth, that the King of Spain arrived at Lisbon on the 24th February, and we make no doubt but Admiral Leake arrived there soon after with the rest of the troops; and Sir Andrew Lake is ready to sail with 12 more men of war, which makes up our quota of Sir G. Rooke's squadron, wanting only four. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Hampton Court, off of Cape St. Vincent.
March the 10th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$, O. S.

Dear Sir,

Since my last, wherein I told you I had hopes of getting my liberty and retirement, I was prevailed upon to proceed the voyage, having satisfaction given me in the matter of Captain Wishart by his being made Rear-Admiral of the Blue, in preference to Captain Whetstone; but it was done in such an awkward manner, as if it were with all their hearts in spite of their teeth.

In my second attempt of getting out of the channel, we gained our port, after a delicate passage of thirteen days from St. Helen's. It was three days before the ceremonies were adjusted for the King of Spain's landing His reception and en-

tertainment have been with great splendour and magnificence, by ringing of bells, firing of cannon, bonfires, fireworks and illuminations ashore and afloat, for three nights following. And I can't omit acquainting you with one piece of gallantry in the King of Portugal. You have heard the Infanta, his eldest daughter, died, about a fortnight before our arrival, of the small pox: the King of Spain, as soon as he heard it, sent his compliment of condolence, which the King of Portugal heard, and made this reply. 'I am extremely obliged to my Lord, his Catholic Majesty, for his concern for my misfortune, but I and my people have conceived so great joy at King Charles the 3d's arrival in my dominions, that all grief must be banished this country; and, therefore, I desire no more may be said on that subject.'

The forces were eleven days in port before any of them were landed, and matters for declaring the war and opening the campaign advance with the usual sloth of the country. As soon as I got clear of my guest, and could get a squadron of ships ready to sail, I came to sea with eighteen sail, and do intend to cruise in this station for a month, with a prospect of performing the following services; viz, securing our Turkey-fleet in their passage through the Straits, intercepting the enemy in their passing with small squadrons from one sea to the other, and lying in the way of the Buenos Ayres-ships, and others expected home from the West Indies. I was resolved to make an early campaign with a few ships, lest my friends at home should hinder me of the means of making any with a fleet in a proper season; besides, I am in hopes it may quicken our friends ashore in their dilatory motions.

I am very sorry to tell you, the diamond-sword that went at Dusseldorp was a damned true jest; for they have fobbed me of [it], with one set with small diamonds, and a buckle and cock for a hat; which, if they were all well sold, might produce 250 or £260. I believe it was all they could do, and I wish the King as good success as if I had the present [which] was intended me. But to mend the matter you must know the Queen has taken away all the plate, I mean that of the King's cabin, which has ever been a perquisite to the Admiral; so that by this voyage, which my friends expected would make my fortune, I am more than £1000 out of pocket. I will trouble you with no more of my grievances

now, but conclude with my hearty wishes of your health and prosperity, and that every thing may succeed in your parts and here, to the advantage of the public service, which, with my service to the gentlemen with you, ends this from,

Dear Sir,

Your sincere friend, and most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. Rooke.

March 10th, $170\frac{3}{4}$, S. V.

Sir,

I can't yet recover Flotard's letter, which I designed to send you; but by this time I suppose he has been with you: he pretends, as you will find, to do great matters in the Cevennes; but I hope nothing he says, upon which I cannot wholly rely, will divert you from the first thought you had about that affair, and in order to which my Lord Nottingham will tell you, all that you desired is actually done. But to return to this Flotard; I gave him £100 last winter to go into Holland and try how far he could engage the Pensioner in his projects; he has talked him into as much more to carry him from thence to Turin, where, according to our proportion, he still desires a third hundred pounds to be furnished him by you for his subsistence. If you will have the goodness to give him credit for that sum, it shall be allowed you, either in your extraordinaries, or by any other method you like better. You will not wonder to hear, that we have people here that suggest to us perpetually how much disposed the provinces in the south of France are generally to revolt, in case any prospect of security could be held out to them; that of Guyenne is particularly named. If you have any means, where you are, of being particularly informed in this matter, I should think it were worth both the pains and the expense that such an affair would require; you will best judge if it be any way practicable or not.

I have several proposals now before me for the next remittances to Savoy, of which I am endeavouring to take the best; but I don't know, if the accounts would not be more regularly kept by agreeing for the exchange at a rate

certain, and by paying our subsidies to Count Maffei here, who might remit them at his own conveniency, I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

Whitehall, March 14th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

I have received yours of February 26th, and 29th; which fall short of what your former had made us hope. Count Maffei has been with me to day and makes many difficulties; but I have told him, as I must to you also, that "we "have hopes of 3000 of the men in Portugal to accompany our "fleet, which, joined with 2000 marines, and 5 or 6000 of Sa- "voy, we hope may effect, with success, the attempt on Tou- "lon. Prince Lichtenstein and the Almirante have pressed the "King of Portugal to grant this number, and, in confidence of "them, the Queen hath sent orders to Sir G. Rooke to keep in "pay the transport-ships that are needful for these men, or "the troops for Savoy, to attempt Toulon; and what I writ "before to Sir G. Rooke, her Majesty hath confirmed by her "order, to sail to the relief of Nice, upon notice from you or "the Duke of Savoy, that the French were about to attempt "it." I send you enclosed her Majesty's order for inviting her subjects out of the French service; the like is sent to Portugal. Her Majesty has done this at the instance of Count Wratislaw, as the enclosed memorial will shew you.

I have in my former letters answered and done every thing you repeat in yours of the 26th of February.

I should have told you that "the troops desired by Lichten- "stein are to alarm the coasts of Spain, and make some di- "version there, and none know of the design on Toulon but "Sir G. Rooke, who, when he has them, may first attempt "Toulon, and do the service on the coast of Spain, before or "after, according as the Duke of Savoy can and will concur." I am

Your most humble and faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

ANNE R.

Whereas, there are several of our subjects, of our kingdom of Ireland, and other our subjects who now serve in the armies of our enemies, who, we are informed, are willing

to quit that service, provided they may be assured of our pardon, and of being entertained in our service, or in the service of our allies: We have, therefore, thought fit hereby to authorize and empower you to give all reasonable assurances that such our subjects, both officers and soldiers, as shall quit the service of our enemies, and come over to the King of Spain, or any other of our allies, shall have our gracious pardon for all crimes and offences committed by them, in adhering to, or serving under, our enemies, and for any crime and offence relating thereunto, and that they shall be received and entertained in the service of the King of Spain, or some other of our allies, where they shall best like, in the same quality and with the same pay as they enjoyed under our enemies.

And we hereby direct and authorize you to make publication of our gracious intentions herein, in such manner as may render the same most effectual. And for so doing this shall be your warrant. Given at our Court, at St. James's, the 14th day of March, $170\frac{3}{4}$, in the third year of our reign.

By her Majesty's command,

To our trusty and well-beloved Richard Hill, Esquire, our Envoy Extraordinary to the Duke of Savoy.

NOTTINGHAM.

Whereas, her Majesty, the Queen of GreatBritain, and Ireland, &c., has been pleased by her declaration, dated at St. James's, the 14th March, $170\frac{3}{4}$, to grant full pardon to all her subjects, whether officers or soldiers, who are at present in the service of her enemies, provided they quit that service and come into the service of the Emperor, or any of the allies, where they will be received and entertained in the ranks and conditions wherein they now serve the French: this is to advise all whom it may concern, that they may take the benefit of her Majesty's said gracious pardon, and come into the service of the Emperor, or other of the Queen's allies, from whence they may have passports from her Majesty to return into their own country.

RICHARD HILL.

Given at Turin, 16th April, 1704.

By order of her Majesty's Envoy:
JOHN CHETWYND.

Whitehall, March 24th, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

Sir,

I have received yours of March 5th, 7th, and 12th, to which I am ordered to answer, "that though you will do very "well to improve any overtures that may come from Bavaria, "and every opportunity of gaining him into our interests, yet "I much fear the success, and am sorry to tell you the rea- "sons of my fears, which are, that the Emperor's affairs are in "a most miserable condition, the rebels in Hungary increas- "ing, and Teckley now got into Transylvania, where he hath "got together, as is said, 20,000 men; Berzeni and Ragotski[1] "have civilly dismissed Monsieur Bruyninx, and, therefore, "little hopes of appeasing new troubles, which are fomented "not only by France, but Bavaria; and measures are taken, "as intercepted letters shew, for his joining with them, and "very little prospect of the Emperor's being able to prevent "it. All this makes it the more necessary for the Duke of "Savoy to enable us by his troops to attempt Toulon, where "good success would repair misfortunes elsewhere. But it "is impossible for us now to form any battalions of French, "here or in Holland, and more so to send them with the "fleet. We are in hopes of two or three thousand of the "troops in Portugal, which Sir. G. Rooke will bring with "him into the Straits; but we are sure of only two thousand "marines. Sir G. Rooke hath orders to proceed to Villa- "Franca upon the first notice from you, or the Duke of Sa- "voy, that the French are before Nice, and lest the notice "should not come to him, so as that afterwards he may get "thither time enough, orders are sent him to call a council of "war, to consider and resolve of proceeding forthwith into the "Straits, and all the arguments for it (both in respect of Nice, "preventing the French from sending recruits, and support- "ing the passage by sea of those of the Emperor, if he can "send any, and the diversion that the alarming the coast of "Spain by our fleet may be to the Duke of Anjou[2]) are com- "municated to Sir G. Rooke, that he may induce the council "of war to make no delay in going into the Mediterranean. "I wish you may have success with Venice, for though I did

[1] Count Berzeni andPrince Ragotski were two leaders of the Hungarian malecontents.

[2] Grandson of Louis XIV, and placed by him on the throne of Spain, as Philip V.

"some time ago press the Venetian ambassador on this sub-
"ject with all the arguments that I could think of, and such
"as seem to be sufficient to shew it was the interest of the Re-
"public, and indeed of necessity, to declare against France,
"and did also acquaint him that you had full power to treat
"with that Republic, and to settle" matters in such a man-
ner as might "prevent their fear of the Emperor's being too
"great in Italy, and that this, if they would enter into it,
"should be with all the secrecy that even the Republic could
"wish, yet I have an answer from him, by order of the State,
"that they do not think it proper for them to change their
"measures of neutrality." I hope, however, the account you
have from so many parts of "their better inclinations is true,
"and, therefore, you must take all opportunities of improv-
"ing them."

I have letters from Mr. Stepney, with an account of the Emperor's concessions in the treaty of Savoy, which appear to her Majesty to be so very fair, that she hopes the Duke of Savoy will make no difficulty of complying, on his part, in such few things as the Emperor has denied; and Mr. Stepney says, that Prince Eugene himself is of opinion, notwithstanding his partiality to his Royal Highness, that the Emperor has done all on his part that is fit to be insisted on by his Royal Highness, which encourages the Queen to hope for his Royal Highness's compliance, and that the treaty will be ratified, to which you are to endeavour to persuade him. I have not time to send you a copy of the treaty as it now stands, nor will it be needful, since you may be informed of all these matters there without sending you so bulky a packet. I am

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, April 4th, 1704.

Sir,

"I have at last received from Count Maffei, a memorial
"and project, which your letters made mention of, to which I
"have answered, by the Queen's command, that she could not
"furnish above two thousand two hundred men; for this is the
"exact number of our marines of Sir G. Rooke's squadron;

"but we had great hopes of two or three thousand from the "King of Portugal, which we could use for the attempt on "Toulon, and afterwards on other designs which that King "projects, on the coast of Spain; but this being not certain, "I desired him to press his Royal Highness to furnish such a "number of his own troops as, joined with our marines and "the fleet, might assure the success of that attempt; for, in "that case, her Majesty would give two hundred thousand "crowns to his Royal Highness, which is agreeable to your instructions" of 26th of July last; "and, lest his Royal Highness "should be backward in this design, or not send sufficient force "to secure the success, you must pursue those instructions, "and offer to him two hundred thousand crowns; but you "must explain this matter so as that two hundred thousand "crowns will be given only in case of success." I am

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, 4th April, 1704.

Dear Sir,

I intended to have taken the pains to have troubled you to night with a long letter, but you are to escape by the great deal of business I have to despatch to night to Sir Geo. Rooke, with whose designs I believe you may be acquainted.

Yesterday the Parliament was prorogued to July next. When the black rod came to the door of the Commons, with her Majesty's commands for them to attend her in the House of Lords, they were very busy in directing their Speaker to address himself to the throne, and protest, in the name of all the Commons of England, against some of the Lords' proceedings; but they had not time to go through with it; so they are quietly (though discontentedly) returning home to their several countries. The sober party seem to be well pleased and in humour, the others not so, being under apprehensions of alterations; and some would talk the Earl of Nottingham into discontent enough to give up his seals, and I wish there be not as much ground to believe it, as there was occasion given him for doing it.

The enclosed letters, your nephew Lowndes brought me to

night. The Bishop of Clogher, in a letter I received from him yesterday, gives you his humble service.

Forgive me to night, and believe [me], ever, with great respect and truth,

Sir,

Your most humble and obedient servant,

To Mr. Hill. J. TUCKER.

Hampton Court, April the 7th, 1704.

Dear Sir,

Being just coming into Lisbon, and meeting with the Lyme and Mary-Galley bound to you, I could not part with them without writing you these two lines, to tell you I hope you have my letter of the 12th ult., under cover of our friend John Tucker; and in this cruise I have had the good fortune to take four or five galleons, that were bound with guns, bombs, and other ammunitions of war from St. Sebastian to Cadiz; two of them of sixty guns each, and one of them of sixty guns was, I doubt, lost by mismanagement, going into Lisbon: however, the disappointment to our enemies is the same. And if our Kings would be persuaded to advance in time to the frontiers, I think they would meet with a hearty welcome in Spain; but delays you know are dangerous, and, therefore, I won't detain these ships a minute from you; but can't conclude without the assurance, that I am, with a most passionate friendship,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. ROOKE.

Whitehall, April 11th, 1704.

Sir,

I have received yours of March $\frac{10}{21}$, $\frac{14}{25}$, $\frac{17}{28}$th, and I have also received a packet from Count Maffei, which he told me contained the Duke of Savoy's and your letters to Sir G. Rooke, which I forwarded to him yesterday by the squadron of men of war which make up our quota, and are sailed with a fair wind; and as I have, in my former letters, acquainted

you with the Queen's orders to Sir G. Rooke, so I can now tell you that the Pensioner writes to me an account of the States' orders to Callemberg, which were such as I cannot doubt but he will comply with Sir G. Rooke in executing what you desire and expect for the service of the Duke of Savoy.

I hope you have already received full powers to grant the indemnity you desire to deserters. I sent it you in mine of March 14th.

I have writ to my Lord of Orford for an account of what commission he had from the Emperor, and what orders he had from the King to exact contributions from the Imperial feudatories; but her Majesty is in some doubt about that matter, for though it were done when we had the ports of Spain, it may be inconvenient now to insult the only ports we have for a retreat in the Mediterranean, in case of any damage to our ships.

I hope you will be able to obtain some favour for the Vaudois, though you do not make a distinct treaty with the Duke of Savoy; for upon mentioning this some time ago to Count Maffei, and telling him that some indulgences to those poor people would be extremely grateful to England, and that his Royal Highness ought to do that honour to the Queen, who so generously supports him, to let her people see that her intercession in their behalf is of weight, he seemed to concur with me, and almost assured me, that his Royal Highness would, in this particular as well as all others, shew the particular regard he had for her Majesty.

"I have no more to say than what I have in my last, of the "4th, about Toulon, only that I more doubt the Duke of Sa- "voy's power than his will; for though, as you say in yours "of April first, it is a dangerous thing to commit a sin that "can never be forgiven, yet if this sin were once committed "effectually, France will scarce ever have power to revenge "it, and then it is no matter whether it ever be forgiven." I am

Your most humble and faithful servant.

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.

Whitehall, 2nd May, 1704.

Sir,

Yours of the $\frac{7}{18}$th, and two of the $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}^{\text{th}}_{\text{nd}}$, with a copy of

one of the 11th past to the Earl of Nottingham are come to my hands. The original of the 11th I had seen before, and, I hope, before this, you will have had an account of it. The Queen being at Windsor, and my Lord Treasurer at Newmarket, I cannot, at present, send you any directions upon the other three; but I must condole with you upon the disappointment of that expedition which we had so much at heart. The Comte Maffei has explained to me the reasons urged by the Duke of Savoy touching the impracticableness of that service, at least the beginning of the campaign; and, I confess, considering the posture and condition of the Emperor's affairs in Lombardy, they have weight in them; but I think there will be greater difficulties at the end of the campaign, when "our fleet" must "think of returning home." I have hinted to the Comte my own thoughts how impossible I take it to be, for to make any attempt "late in the year," and, truly, I think there is an end of that project for "this year," whatever may be pretended by "the Duke of Savoy" for making use of a favourable conjuncture to put this design in execution. But these are my own thoughts, and you will please to expect her Majesty's orders by my next. All that I can do farther, is to inform "Sir G. Rooke" of what you write, which I shall do to night by the packet-boat. I have, in my last, hinted to you, that the proposal of her Majesty's being Guarand for the neutrality was thought reasonable; and, in the manner you now explain it, I think there can be no sort of objection. Comte Maffei has, to day, fully opened that matter to me, which I shall have also by way of memorial, and then it will be answered in form, of all which you shall have an account. I am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Whitehall, 25th April, 1704.

Sir,

I have received from the Earl of Nottingham your letters of the 11th and 15th inst., N. S. and am directed, since his Lordship has resigned the Seals, to send you an answer to them.

o

It is her Majesty's pleasure that you should, in conjunction with "Monsieur Vander Meer," encourage and assist "Mon-"sieur Belcastel," whom the States-General are sending "into "Savoy," and "Switzerland, to raise three thousand men" for the service "of the alliance," and, in case you find a probability, that that design may take effect, you may "give assur-"ances" that the "Queen will" be ready "to furnish two-thirds "of that expense," from the view and hopes "her Majesty hath," that this proposal may prove of great use "towards succouring "the Cevennois."

The "plan of Toulon" was sent by "a man of war to Sir "G. Rooke," as not being fit "to be trusted to the post;" and it would be to no purpose "to write in cipher" if the "plan had" miscarried. The arguments used against the design are "the Duke of Savoy's own," and cannot be urged "by the States-General," who neither do, nor ought to, know any thing of the matter; neither is any "assistance" expected "from them," otherwise than "by their ships," in conjunction "with the Queen's."

That the troops of France are so numerous in Provence is looked upon here to be occasioned by their having quitted Savoy, and their drawing towards the Camisars, so that that argument will cease whenever "those troops move again," as we think it is intended "they shall do."

The proposal that "the Duke of Savoy" shall declare "to the Helvetic body," that neither "he nor his successors will "alienate the Duchy of Savoy to any Prince not of his family," of which you have an account "from Mr. Aglionby," is right, and that "a guarantee should be given to that" purpose is thought here very reasonable.

Assurances are given "to Comte Maffei that the fleet shall "go early into the Mediterranean this summer," and that "the Admiral is sufficiently instructed for pursuing his "Royal Highness's project."

Whitehall, 5th May, 1704.

The letters of the 25th past, being not come to Holland, when those of the 2nd instant came away, which we have received this evening, and fearing they may be lost, I send you the above duplicate. I am,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

C. Hedges.

To Mr. Hill.

On board the Lyme, in Villa-Franca,
the 6th May, 1704, S.V.

Sir,

Being commanded by her Majesty, with Capt. Scot, in the Mary-Galley, to sail from England to Villa-Franca, and to obey such orders as you should please to give; this, Sir, will acquaint you, that, after a passage of six weeks and 4 days, struggling with strong contrary winds, I am safely arrived here, and wait to know your pleasure, having 4 months' and 4 days' provision on board, at whole allowance, beer excepted, of which we have but 12 days', then must drink water, unless you will please to give some direction about wine for both ships. I have some French prisoners on board, which I should be glad to know your pleasure about. I shall keep in a readiness to obey your commands. I am, &c., &c.,

To Mr. Hill. GEO. DOLMAN.[1]

P.S. The arms in the Mary-Galley wait your order.

Whitehall, 12th May, 1704.

Sir,

"The Queen having" several advices, that "the French" have, at present, laid aside "their design against Nizza, and "Villa-Franca," and that, by reason of the ill condition of the "Emperor's forces in Italy," there is no prospect of any "assistance from them to co-operate with our fleet, Sir Geo. "Rooke" is, therefore, directed to concert with "the minis-"ters of Spain and Portugal" the best measures to be taken with "our fleet and their forces for taking Cadiz, or support-"ing the Catalonians," who are disposed "to revolt;" or do any other service, that may most effectually conduce "to "the reducing of Spain," [that] being, at present, "the "principal service we have in view;" but if he be gone "from "Lisbon, before these instructions meet him," he is under "his former orders" about "Villa-Franca and Nice;" or if he should find, when he is "in the Mediterranean," that the "French renew their designs on" those places, he "hath" still "direction" to go "to their assistance. Count Maffei" has presented a memorial desiring "the Queen will come in-to the treaty of neutrality for Savoy," and "the guaran-

[1] See page 87.

"tee the Swiss" demand, to which he is told that "the Queen "is willing to do all that in her lies" for the advantage "of "Savoy;" but desires to know "what that treaty is," and all the steps that have, or shall be, "made in it. He feeds us" with hopes that something will still be done "in the grand "design" before the end of the campaign. The "seven "ships" are come "to Sir G. Rooke at Lisbon." We fear he has "no land-forces with him," and it doth not seem possible "he should have any." We have been alarmed that the French are come out of Brest with 26 ships of the line, under the command of the Count de Thoulouse; but we do not know whether it be true, or, if it be, whither he is gone: if, towards Cadiz, as some imagine, we "think Sir G. Rooke "will be superior to him, till he joins the Toulon-squadron," and, in that case, "we are sending Sir C. Shovel with a "squadron," sufficient "to make him superior to both." In your letter of the $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}^{th}_{nd}$ past, somewhat seems mistaken in the cipher, which makes some part of it unintelligible, and if there be any thing very considerable in it, I desire you will please to repeat it.

The Queen having ordered £6000 to be sent forthwith to my Lord Raby,[1] to be distributed amongst the exile-protestants of Orange, you are directed to correspond with his lordship, and to acquaint him with your opinion relating to the application of any part of this money to such of the said protestants as are in the countries near you; and his lordship has notice sent him to correspond with you on that subject. Yours of the 2nd inst., N.S., to the Earl of Nottingham, is now in my hands; but I have not yet any direction to say any thing to you thereon. I am, &c.,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Whitehall, 16th May, 1704.

Sir,

I have none from you now to acknowledge, there being two mails wanting from Holland, which is occasioned by all the packet-boats being on this side, and one that carried the letters of the 25th past being not to be heard of. Our letters from Lisbon, of 26th past, tells us "Sir G. Rooke was sailed" that day from thence, "with all the fleet," which had put them

[1] Envoy Extraordinary from the British Court to the King of Prussia.

there into a great consternation, they looking upon themselves as deserted, and exposed "to the attempts of the French in the "absence of the fleet;" but they are much mistaken. "Sir "G. Rooke" pursued the orders he last received, and went out undoubtedly with a design "to succour Nice or Villa-"Franca; but the French" having laid aside their design on those places, and they being no longer in danger, I am directed to acquaint you, that you are "to give Sir G. Rooke "notice that he is not to go up so high in the Mediterranean "with the fleet," but to return "to the coast of Spain," where his principal business lies at present; and as to the security of "the port of Lisbon," her Majesty is sending a squadron "thither," consisting of "26 sail," under the command of "Sir C. Shovel;" which will be sufficient, as we hope, for the defence "of that port," and likewise to spare a detachment "to Sir G. Rooke," which may "put him into a con-"dition to oppose the whole French fleet," though a large squadron, which we are advised sailed lately from Brest, under the command of the Comte de Thoulouse, "towards Cadiz, "[to] join" another "squadron, which" it was said "should "meet him there from Toulon." We have letters to day of the 9 inst., from Kinsale, in Ireland, that tell us, the Scanderoon fleet, with their convoy, was the day before making into that harbour.

Mr. Harley, the Speaker, had the Seals given him by her Majesty this evening. I am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Berlin, 17th May, 1704.

Sir,

His Majesty[1] has made a little tour this week to some of his country-houses. Last Tuesday he went from Schonhausen to Fredericsfelt, and the next day to Cepwick, from whence he came to Wusterhausen, a seat his Majesty has given to the Prince Royal, where there was a great Court, and his Majesty diverted himself with the Heron-hawking thereabouts.

This morning his Majesty came to town, and reviewed the train of artillery, &c., which is designed for the Danube, and

[1] The King of Prussia.

lies encamped a little way out of town, in the road towards Leipsic. His Majesty is now returned to Schonhausen. It is expected that the artillery, with all its attendants, will now march in a very few days; all the horses being brought to town, except some that are to be furnished by the district of Pomerania.

Our letters from Dantzic, the last of the 14th, say, a trooper of that town had, the 9th, seized two waggons, which were found laden with arms, and other contraband goods, belonging to the French envoy, and designed for Hungary. That envoy has reclaimed them, and is very angry at the seizure, and pretends that the town shall indemnify him, if they are not restored by the King of Sweden; for the Count de Steenbock had them carried to his house, his master, the King of Sweden, having the greatest concern that such contraband goods should not enter into Poland. They came lately by a ship from Dunkirk. It was said, that the Congress of Warsaw had fixed upon the 19th of June next for the day of the election of a new King; and that, on the other side, the King of Poland has called a Diet, which is to assemble three days before, so that we shall now soon see which way the general disposition of that kingdom will turn. The magistrates of Dantzic are again pressed to renounce, by some authentic writing, their allegiance to the present King, and to declare for the Confederates, and their positive answer was expected the 16th.

Our letters which came in this evening from Warsaw, which are not so fresh as the news by the way of Dantzic, say, that since the printing and publishing the Confederation, the Chancery in the Castle there has been shut up, and nothing is to be done therein, just as it is practised during the time of an Interregnum. The day for the new election was not then positively fixed; but the Cardinal designed to send out his Universalia suddenly, and declare both the Interregnum, and the time of electing. Prince Alexander has writ letters to all the Weywodships to desire them to help his brothers in their misfortune. The Swedes exacted still contributions even from the Confederates; and General Rheinschild was at Warka, 7 miles from Warsaw, increasing his body with the Swedish troops that marched towards him. They write from Pietrowin, that the King of Poland was still there, and continually in Council with the nobles attending him, how to

oppose and frustrate the designs of the Congress at Warsaw; that the Weywodship of Lencici was come over to the King's party, having quitted that of the Confederates, which the Weywodship of Lublin had likewise done.

I have none of yours to answer this post.

I always thought it [Savoy] had been a stronger country than I find it is; things must not go so well with the French as they did last year, they lie still so long. God send it may grow worse with them; we want one of the Emperor's usual miracles to assist us. I had a letter from the Duke of Marlborough, who is now at Coblentz, if not farther. I don't question but we shall have a good account of him, now he is free from the clog of the Dutch generals and deputies. I am extremely,

Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. RABY [1]

Whitehall, 19th May, 1704.

Sir,

Your letters of the 9th and 13th inst., to the Earl of Nottingham, are put into my hands, which I can do little more than acknowledge. I am sorry the Duke of Savoy's courage was not attended with better success. By mine to you of the 12th inst., you will see, at large, what instructions Sir G. Rooke has in relation to Nice and Villa-Franca, which places, you say, the French seem still to have an eye upon, though we thought they had quitted that design, and you will see by my last, of the 16th inst., that you are directed "to give notice to Sir G. Rooke, that he is not to go up "so high in the Mediterranean as Nice and Villa-Franca, with "the fleet, but to go back to the coast of Spain," where his principal business lies at present. Her Majesty's minister at Vienna has been endeavouring the same thing that the Marquis de Prié is, you say, gone upon to Vienna, that the treaty may be sent back in the same terms that his Royal Highness desires, and I do not doubt, but he will find the effect of Mr. Stepney's good offices. I am, &c.,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

[1] Thomas Wentworth, Baron Raby; afterward Viscount Wentworth, and Earl of Strafford.

Whitehall, 23rd May, 1704.

Sir,

The Envoy of Savoy having, as by his master's orders, desired a private audience of the Queen, her Majesty was pleased to admit him to it last night. His discourse was pretty long, full of compliments to her Majesty, and of assurances of his Royal Highness's zeal for the common cause, and the earnest desire he had to comply in every thing that was agreeable to her Majesty; but the chief business was to excuse "his not proceeding on the grand design, or rather "to shew that it was not practicable at this juncture. The "reasons he urged were grounded upon the superiority of the "French, and his Royal Highness's want of troops for such "an undertaking;" but he concluded with giving hopes that a more favourable juncture might offer before the end of the campaign: and, if that should happen, his Royal Highness would use his utmost endeavours to make the best use of it. We have [heard] nothing, since my last from Lisbon, of the fleets; but we conclude that Sir G. Rooke is, by this time, near Catalonia, Majorca, or Minorca, where he will earnestly expect to hear from you: he is about 40 sail strong, and, we think, much superior to either of the French fleets, and may prevent their junction. The Comte de Thoulouse sailed from Brest the 14th inst., N.S., according to our advices from Cadiz, with 26 ships of the line; and Sir C. Shovel sailed after him with 28, on the 9th inst; so that we hope to have a good account of them. I am, &c.,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Royal Catherine, between the Isles of Eres and Cape Rosas, May the 25th, at night, [1704].

Dear Sir,

I send this, by express, to give you an account of my arrival on this coast; and that we have been a month from Lisbon, without stopping any where but three days at Barcelona, where the Prince of Hesse D'Armstadt, who is aboard me, opinionated that, that city and country would deliver themselves up to him, upon his appearance there; but, finding himself mistaken, he represented, and persuaded us, that if we landed some few forces, and made a show of a bombardment, the principal men of the town and country would rise

and declare for King Charles the 3d: upon which we landed about 1500 marines, and bombarded the town; but after our men were two nights ashore, the Prince saw he could not prevail in his pretensions, and so we left the place; though, I do believe, the people are inclinable, and would certainly rise in our favour, if there had been any little body of land forces to sustain and support them.

And now I have told you of our being on the coast, I must acquaint you of our sudden departure, which the enclosed intelligence from Toulon, the enclosed copy of a letter from my Lord Ambassador Methuen, and the enclosed copy of a resolution of a Council of War of this day,[1] will explain the reasons to you. But besides the ships which came from West France, we met and chased six of the Toulon-squadron, who [have,] before this, joined their ships at Cadiz; so that, as you will see by the enclosed list of our fleet,[2] they are stronger,

[1] These three documents follow this letter.

[2] May the 25th, 1704, O. S.

A LIST OF THE ENGLISH AND DUTCH SHIPS NOW IN THE FLEET.

[*The English.*]

Rate	Ships' Names	Commanders	men	guns	Flags
2d.	Royal Katherine	Jno. Fletcher	730	90	Sr. Geo. Rooke, Admiral, &c. J. Wishart, Esq. Rr. A. Blue.
2d.	Prince George	Stephen Martin	700	90	Sr. Jno. Leake, V. Adl. Blue.
3d.	Newark	Rd. Clarke	500	80	
3d.	Cambridge	Rd. Lestock	500	80	
3d.	Somerset	Jno. Price	500	80	
3d.	Yarmouth	Gasper Hicks	440	70	
3d.	Hampton-Court	Cha: Wager	440	70	
3d.	Berwick	Rt. Fairfax	440	70	
3d.	Ferine	Baron Wylde	440	70	
3d.	Bedford	Sr. Tho: Hardy	440	70	
3d.	Kent	Jonas Hanway	460	70	Tho. Dilkes, Esq. Rr. Ad. [White.
3d.	Burford	Kennell Pophee	440	70	
3d.	Suffolk	Rt. Kirkton	440	70	
3d.	Grafton	Sr. And: Lake	440	70	
3d.	Eagle	Ld. Arch. Hamil-	440	70	
3d.	Monmouth	Jno. Baker [ton	440	70	
4th.	Tyger	Philip Cavendish	280	50	
4th.	Antelope	Tho: Legg	280	50	
4th.	Swallow	Rd. Haddock	280	50	
4th.	Leopard	Rd. Culliford	280	50	
4th.	Montague	Wm. Clealand	365	60	
4th.	Panther	Peregrine Bertie	280	50	
5th.	Lark	Cha: Fotherby	190	40	
5th.	Tartar	Capt. Cooper	130	32	
6th.	Newport	Geo: Paddon	110	24	
Fire-Ships.	Firebrand	Hen: Tourville	40	8	
Fire-Ships.	Hunter	Capt. Legg	40	8	
Fire-Ships.	Phenix	Edmd. Hicks	40	8	
	Jeffery. Hospl.	Capt. Robinson	60	16	

without any further addition from Toulon or West France, than we are. However, if we meet them, we shall not avoid them, and though they may possibly get a victory, yet, I dare promise you, it shall be a dear-bought one; for, God be praised, our men are in good health, and very good heart, and the fleet in a good condition in that particular; but we met with a ruffle passing the gulph, which disabled our masts, yards, and sails, almost as much as a battle, our English canvass, according to its old custom, flying away like dirt. The Captain of the Charles-Galley, who brings this, does not know but he is to follow us to Sicily and Naples; so that I offer it to your consideration, whether it may not be so given out with you.

I know not how proper it may be to venture these papers by the post to England, and, therefore, I write nothing to the Secretaries; so that I must refer it to you, to say what you think fit on this occasion, which being all I have to add to

Charles-Galley	Jos. Taylor	115	32	}	At Lisbon; ordered after the Fleet.
Garland	Henry Hobart	190	40		
Griffin, Fireship	Geo. Ramsay	45	8		

The Dutch.

	Ships.	Commanders.	Men.	Guns.
	Dordregt	Capt. B. Van Reghren	375	72
	Veere	Capt. Okkerse	320	60
Bombarder	Velnwe	B. HaglesVanderdussen	400	66
	Frisia	Capt. Middaghr	325	64
	Schiedam	Capt. Borcell	220	50
	De Leenir	Capt. Scott	325	64
	Princess Amelia	Capt Van Leiven	260	52
Mars 30	Banier	Capt. B. V. Gondt	325	64
Brander	Albemarle	Lt. Admll. Calenbergh	375	64
Bombarder	Twapen V : Utregt	Capt. Bolk	325	64
	Alissinge	Capt. Willshyt	238	50
	Nymwegen	Capt. Lynslager	400	72
	Overyssell	Capt. Bodaan	220	52
	Gelderland	Capt. B. V. Wassenaer	320	60
Bombarder	Unie	V. Adml. B. V. Wassenaer	500	90
	Emilia	Capt. Beckman	325	64
	Damiaten	Capt. Schaap	220	50
	Calwyke	Capt. Schryver	400	72

Ships expected from England with the Victuallers.

Dorsetshire	80
Boyne	80
Torbay	80
Shrewsbury	80
Swiftsure	70
Nassau	70
Royal Oak	74
Essex	70

my most sincere respects and service, I do remain, with a most true friendship,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. Rooke.

P.S. If the Lyme and the Mary-Galley be still with you, I think you should send them to Leghorn to clean, otherwise they will run infinite hazards in passing the Straits.

May 25th, 1704. O.S.

Intelligence from prisoners taken within the Isles of Eres, yesterday.

Jaques Gascaides, 9 days from Toulon, [states],

That Monsieur Du Canie, with 6 sail, of 60 and 70 gunships, went to sea a month ago for Cadiz:

That there is now at Toulon 20 ships, 9 of them 3 decked, the rest 50, 60, and 70 guns; and four of those now on the Careen, 4 ready to sail, in the little road, of 60 and 70 guns. The rest are ready also, and it is said are to join the Count Thoulouse at Cadiz, he being to come thither from Brest with 30 ships: those at Toulon to be commanded by Count D'Estrée:

That they are going to press men for the three-decked ships:

That the six ships with Monsieur Du Canie, were, at first, ordered with forces, and 8 galleys, for Nizza, but afterwards countermanded, and that those troops were transported to Final, and to join the Duke of Vendôme.

Antonie Cave [states, that there are there]

Nine ships of 3 decks, but not armed:

That there were 24 or 25 ships there this spring:

That 3 ships of 60, and one of 50 guns, lay in the little road, which came in 15 days ago:

That Monsieur Chateaurenault has been at Toulon, and is expected again; but that Monsieur Langeroon commands at present. 8 Galleys there.

Two or three more prisoners all agree in the same account.

Lisbon, May the 23rd, 1704, N.S.

Sir,

Since your going we have had no letters from England, nor [any] news of the men-of-war, or other ships expected. Four or five days since came in the Charles-Galley, the Garland, and the Fireship. All the haste possible has been made by the Captains in cleaning them, and all was disposed for their going to Oporto, according to your orders, to convoy the King of Spain's things, as likewise some corn and ammunition of the King of Portugal's. But yesterday there came to the King repeated advices, that a great many ships were seen off the rock of Lisbon, coming from the North; there was great difference in the number, but all agree that they were upwards of thirty. It is most probable that there were, of all sorts, forty sail, and some say fifty. These ships came afterwards a little nearer the shore, and a small frigate left the fleet and stood in, making signals for pilots, shewing English colours. Upon which a Portuguese bark, with pilots, went off to the frigate, but coming near, suspected them to be French, and tried to get away; but the frigate fired great and small shot, and forced the [men] aboard, and then, leaving the bark floating, joined again the fleet. The Portuguese, sending out to the bark, found only one man dead, having received four shot. All the rest, which they say were eighteen, they carried away; and then the fleet stood all away to the Southward, and since have not been seen. There seems no certainty how many of these ships were men-of-war: but there is reason to believe that a good number are ships of force; for, three days since, the Captain of a small vessel from Plymouth, in six days, saith, that when he came away, there was advice, that the Convoy designed hither, and which was already at Portsmouth, were stopped on advice of the ships fitting out at Brest, and Rochfort; and two Dutch ships, who came in here, severally say, they saw a great many sail of men-of-war in the bay, near the cape Finisterre.

This appears to me so considerable news, and especially to [your] safety, considering the expedition you are gone upon, that I have prevailed with the Captain of the Charles-Galley, to go away alone immediately to find you, endeavouring, in the way, to make this fleet or to get notice of them. I hope you will approve my sending the Captain alone, although it be contrary to your orders; as, likewise, that the Garland

and Fireship will proceed to Oporto, in company with a man-of-war, or two, of the King of Portugal's, to convoy the ships designed. I shall be glad this comes safe, and soon, to your hands; wishing you all happy success, and being, with great respect,

Your most humble and most obedient servant,

To the Right Hon. Sir G. Rooke. JOHN METHUEN.

(A copy.)

G. ROOKE.

At a Council of War of Flag-officers, held on board her Majesty's ship, the Royal Katherine, off the Isles of Eres. May the 25th, 1704.

PRESENT.

SIR G. ROOKE, ADMIRAL, &c.
SIR JOHN LEAKE, V. ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE.
THOMAS DILKES, ESQ. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE WHITE.
JAMES WISHART, ESQ., REAR ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE.
LT. ADMIRAL CALENBERG.
V. ADMIRAL WASSANAER.
REAR ADMIRAL VANDERDUSSEN.

Upon reading, and considering, her Majesty's instructions of the 29th March, relating to the attacking the ships, and port of Toulon, and other services, as also my Lord Nottingham's several letters of the 29th Feb., and the 7th, 14th, and 18th March, about the aforesaid service at Toulon, and a consideration of the intelligence gained from some French when taken out of a boat, within the Isles of Eres, and likewise of letters received this morning, by the Charles-Galley, from my Lord Ambassador Methuen, and Monsieur Schomberg, at Lisbon, of the $\frac{12}{23}$rd instant, giving advice of the French fleets passing that port, and the account which Captain Taylor gives of his having been chased, the 15th instant, by thirty-six French ships, near Cadiz; and also of the six ships which are already passed to the Westward of Cape Palos; and upon a reconsideration of the Queen's former orders of the 14th, 24th, and 28th March, with the resolutions of the Councils of War thereupon: It is agreed, and resolved, that it is necessary for the security of our fleet and countries, that we defer the

execution of the aforesaid orders, and make the best of our way to Lisbon, where we may be supplied with provisions and stores, which are wanting, and be enforced with a sufficient number of ships to follow the enemy into the Mediterranean, or meet them if they should insult any part of the coast of Portugal, it being to be concluded, their instructions are to join the Toulon-squadron, with that fleet now at Cadiz.

(A Copy.)

G. Rooke.

Camp, near Mayence, this 30th May, 1704.

Sir,

We have had none from you this good while, and know not well how to give you aim to send to us. We are hastening up to the Danube, and I believe you will best know how to forward your letters.

We have been in hopes for some days, from the assurances Prince Louis gave my Lord Duke, in a letter of the 22nd, to hear of the Elector of Bavaria's having been attacked and beaten; but by one of the 25th he tells his Grace, that his guides had misled him, and, thereby, given an opportunity to the Elector to slip by him; however, he writes, that he has taken his equipage and his chancélerie, with papers in it of moment. When we come into those parts I hope you will have a better account of us.

The States have ordered us a reinforcement of twenty squadrons and eight battalions in case Monsieur Villeroy proceeds on his march; but we have had no account of him since the first or second day he left the Maese.

You will please to be referred to our paper for the particulars of our march. I am, ever, with true respect,

Sir,

Your most faithful and most obedient servant,

To Mr. Hill. A. Cardonnel.

P. S. We have no letters from England since the 21st past; the next mail we know is lost. We are the more impatient in hopes of some good views from Portugal.

Whitehall, the 30th May, 1704.

Sir,

Your letter to the Earl of Nottingham of the 16th inst., is put into my hands, and all that I have in direction to send you upon it is, that you should continue to encourage the Duke of Savoy to do all that possibly he can to oppose the enemy, believing that you do so on your own accord, and you will please to let us know what you can propose to be further done for his interest, especially if it be true, as we are told, that the Camisards have made an accommodation and laid down their arms, so that the troops that were employed against them will probably fall upon the Duke of Savoy. I send you an extract of a letter from Mr. Methuen,[1] her Majesty's ambassador at Lisbon, by which you will see how much they were alarmed there, when the Comte de Thoulouse passed by with his squadron; and now we are in pain for Sir G. Rooke, lest he should be gone too far up into the Mediterranean, and that, in the mean time, the Comte should join the Toulon-squadron, which seems to be his intent. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Cockpit, June the 2nd, 1704, S. V.

Sir,

Yours of the $\frac{9}{20}$th, and $\frac{12}{23}$rd past, are come to my hands, with the account of the men-of-war at Toulon, which agrees with what we have from other hands; but what the two frigates bring from Cadiz concerning 9 men-of-war there, is altogether new, and, I believe, it is a mistake; but if any ships were there, Sir G. Rooke is in a fair way to give a good account of them. The affair in Bavaria is of the utmost consequence, as you justly observe; but we have a fair prospect of success, and, in that case, I do not doubt but the Duke of Marlborough will turn his thoughts how to assist and support the Duke of Savoy, or give a diversion to the French troops, who are now so much superior in Italy. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

June the 6th, 1704, S.V.

Sir,

I have the favour of yours of the $\frac{16}{27}$th of May, by

[1] This has not been met with by the Editor.

which I see you did not then know that care had been taken for the 2 months due upon the 3rd of June, and this day there is also a remittance of 2 months more for the 3rd of August. Every body here is as sensible of the Duke of Savoy's pressures as of his merits.

I am glad to find you kept yourself still in a readiness to despatch your little fleet to the Cevennois, since, by our letters of this day, we are credibly, and I hope truly, informed, that the flames are broken out afresh in Languedoc, and the accomodation farther off than ever. This is so much believed in Holland that they have despatched away Col. Belcastel to try if he can raise 3000 men to send to their assistance. Miremont is soliciting a commission from hence, and the approbation of the States to put himself at the head of this project, and would give us hopes of raising 6000 men instead of 3000. I shall do my best endeavours to content him. When Sir C. Shovel and Sir G. Rooke shall be joined, which we compute and hope they may be by this hour, at Barcelona, they will have 60 sail of line-of-battle, and we know the French cannot, from West France and Toulon, make above 40, supposing them all joined; in which, too, there may be possibly some difficulty and hazard. This being the case, if you see any room for a detachment from them to be made useful in your part of the world, and can find means to send an express to them at Barcelona, or Althea-bay, it is next to impossible, but they must be in a condition to execute any thing that shall be judged advisable by you and them. I hope the Duke of Marlborough's march will give so much relief to the Empire, as to open a way for recruiting the German troops in Italy. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

Whitehall, the $\frac{6}{17}$th, June, 1704.

Sir,

Though I am unfortunately pressed into the public service, in a difficult and dangerous post; yet you will give me leave to enter myself a volunteer in your service, and to assure you, that you shall find me very ready and zealous to obey any of your commands, or to promote your interest.

In the absence of Mr Secretary Hedges I had the honour to receive and open your letters: and we are in hopes, by the

reports brought by these packets, that the Camisards have not made their terms; but that there will be an opportunity for you to shew your happy talent in relieving those distressed poor people, as you have already, with so much prudence, activity, and application, begun to make provision for that good work. We have not only the fleet under Sir G. Rooke, but also a strong squadron under Sir C. Shovel, who are gone after the Comte de Thoulouse, so that we hope you will quickly reap some fruit from that expedition in your negotiation, to which we have all the reason in the world to wish the success may be suitable to your inclination and abilities. And, indeed, the character you give of his Royal Highness is so charming, it merits all the care in the world to give him satisfaction: to that end I wrote, last post, to Mr. Stepney, at Vienna, to do all the good offices there in his power. I send you enclosed a letter from my Lord Treasurer, which I suppose supersedes my giving you any farther trouble than to assure you, that I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. Ro. Harley.[1]

Au Camp de Crescentin, ce 4e Juin, 1704.

Monsieur,

J'ai reçu la lettre que vous avez pris la peine de m'écrire avant-hier, du contenu de laquelle j'ai rendu compte à S. A. R., qui a été bien aise d'apprendre que vous fussiez sur votre départ pour Nice. Elle m'ordonne de vous le témoigner, et de vous dire qu'elle a aussi reçu les avis qui confirment que Sa Majesté très Chrétienne a ratifié ce que le Maréchal de Villars a promis aux Camisars; mais comme les mêmes avis ne font mention que de Cavalier avec sa troupe de 5 à 600 hommes, et que l'on sait d'ailleurs qu'il y en avait un beaucoup plus grand nombre avec d'autres chefs, dont on ne parle point, cela fait juger que cette affaire n'est pas entièrement assoupie, et qu'il y en a encore qui se soutiennent, ainsi sa dite A. R. est toujours du même sentiment, qu'il est fort à propos de mettre en exécution le projet concerté, se remet-

[1] Speaker of the House of Commons, and one of her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, having succeeded to the latter office on the resignation of the Earl of Nottingham. In 1711 he was raised to the peerage by the titles of Earl of Oxford, and Earl Mortimer.

tant entièrement à vos soins, et à votre application pour cela, suffisant qu'il vous reste la moindre lueur d'espérance, et qu'il y ait seulement quelq'un des dits Camisars pour qu'on doive s'y attacher; et S. A. R. se flatte que vous y travaillerez dès que vous serez à Nice avec toute l'attention imaginable sans aucun retardement, ce qui pourrait aussi faire un bon effet par rapport à la descente que la flotte de Sa Majesté Britannique médite de faire sur les côtes de Catalogne,—S. A. R. ayant appris avec autant de satisfaction ce que vous marquez, qu'elle a été marrie du mauvais succés de ce qui s'est passé à l'egard de la Bavière.

Il n'est rien arrrivé ici de nouveau depuis votre départ. Je vous prie de croire que je suis avec un parfait attachement,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

A Monsieur Hill. VICT. THOMAS.[1]

Au Camp de Crescentin, ce 7e Juin, 1704.

Monsieur,

L'exécution du projet, que vous savez, tient fort à cœur à S. A. R. Il parait qu'il y a lieu de l'entreprendre et l'affaire ne souffre pas de dilation. S. A. R. vous en écrit elle même. Elle m' a ordonné d' ajouter à sa lettre qu'il faut presser Monsieur le Marquis de Bettencour pour le faire embarquer au plutôt, et de vous dire confidemment qu'il semble être un de ces esprits qui ont besoin d'être un peu menagés. Je vous prie d'être persuadé que personne ne sera jamais avec plus de passion que je suis,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

A Monsieur Hill. VICT. THOMAS.

Au Camp de Crescentin, ce 7e Juin, 1704.

Monsieur Hill, J'ai été bien aise d'apprendre votre départ pour Nice. Les nouvelles que l'on a eues des Camisars par

[1] A Minister of the Duke of Savoy.

ce dernier ordinaire, portent, ainsi que vous l'aurez apparemment appris, qu'il n'y a que Cavalier et sa troupe qui ayent accepté l'amnistie, et que les autres chefs n'ont pas voulu adhérer à son parti, ce qui fait voir qu'il est toujours plus important de mettre la main à l'exécution du projet concerté. Vous en connoissez les conséquences, et je me flatte que vous y donnerez tous vos soins sans perte de tems, dont il faut profiter, étant tout-à-fait précieux. Votre zèle pour le service de sa Majesté Britannique, et pour le bien de la cause commune me persuade que vous n' oublierez rien pour cette expédition, qui peut être rendue plus aisée par l' entreprise des ennemis sur Suse, et par l'approche de la flotte sur les côtes de la Catalogne.

Les ennemis investirent avant-hier Verceil, et du côté de Suse il y a eu des postes pris, et repris; mais la superiorité du feu du canon des ennemis a engagé les troupes à se retirer du poste de la Brunette, parceque les retranchemens n'etaient pas à l'épreuve faute de terre. Je suis, avec verité,

Monsieur Hill,

Votre meilleur ami,

A Monsieur Hill. V. AMEDE[1]

Au Camp de Crescentin, ce 9e Juin, 1704.

Monsieur Hill, J'ai reçu de Turin par la voye de votre Secrétaire les avis venus par le dernier courier touchant les Camisars. Je ne doute pas qu' il ne vous les ait aussi envoyés. Vous y remarquerez que les affaires des Cevennes, bien loin d'être assoupies, s'y rétablissent avec chaleur plus que jamais. Cavalier même ayant non seulement repris les armes, mais attaqué avec succès les troupes du Maréchal de Villars; de sorte que la conjoncture devient toujours plus favorable pour l'expédition projettée. Il est important de l'exécuter incessamment; car, dans la situation où y sont les affaires, on ne peut que s'en promettre des suites très considérables en faveur de la cause commune. La connoissance que vous en avez ne fera qu'animer de plus en plus votre zèle pour ne pas perdre un moment de tems dans l'exécution de ce dessein. Je suis persuadé que votre pénétration vous

[1] The Duke of Savoy.

fera penser aux moyens de faire tenir quelqu' argent dans la suite à Monsieur de Betancourt, ainsi qu'il sera nécessaire pour qu'il puisse toujours agir avec plus de succès; et comme c'est un esprit un peu délicat, ainsi que vous le connoissez, Je crois qu'il est à propos de tâcher de le contenter du mieux qu'il vous sera possible. Vous aurez appris par ma précédente, comme les troupes se sont retirées de la Brunette, et descendues en suite dans la Vallée de Suse. Mais je veux bien vous dire présentement que cela n'est arrivé que par la confusion de ceux qui commandoient. Elles se sont avancées actuellement à Veillane pour maintenir une tête de ce côté là contre les ennemis qui sont vers Bussolin.

Les Vaudois sont pareillement en mouvement du côté de Suse. Il faut espérer que le ciel nous favorisera pour redresser ce contretems qui a été à la verité facheux. Je suis bien véritablement,

Monsieur Hill,

Votre meilleur ami,

A Monsieur Hill. VICT. AMEDE.

London, the 9th of June, 1704.

Sir,

The share I have, at present, in the remittances for his Royal Highness, is very inconsiderable, and, upon your recommendation, I would gladly make use of Messrs. Colomba and Calcini,[1] if I had not already in other hands the provision for the best part of what I have undertaken. If we go on in this service, the intimation you are pleased to give me of their sufficiency and readiness to serve me will engage me to prefer them to any other for the future. Taking very kindly this fresh proof of your friendship, and assuring you that on all occasions I shall endeavour to shew myself,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. THEOD. JANSSEN.[2]

[1] Of Turin.

[2] Sir Theodore Janssen, an eminent and wealthy London merchant.

Turin, ce 12 Juin, 1704.

Monsieur,

Je vous suis très obligé de la lettre, que vous m' avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 10 de ce mois, laquelle me fut renduë hier. Vous aurez reçu celle que je vous ai mandé Lundi passé par le Sieur Caldebert, et par Monsieur de Betencourt et aurez par-là su l'etat où les affaires se trouvent en Languedoc. Aujourd'hui on en a eu la confirmation. Ainsi je vous envoye suivant ce que vous desirez par le courier Carignan les deux mille louis d'or que vous m'avez demandé parce que vous n'en trouviez pas à Nice assez suffisamment. Aujourd'hui partiront encore deux refugiés, destinés pour être officiers dans la troupe de Monsieur de Betencourt, des Vallées, pour se rendre incessamment auprès de vous. Il faudra s'il est possible profiter de la flotte pour assurer le passage de la dite troupe à ce qui me paroit. Le fort de Suse quoique fortement attaqué et battu tient toujours bon. Un déserteur qui est venu de ce côté là a rapporté, que sur la nouvelle de la levée du bouclier des Camisars, 8 bataillons avoient eu ordre de retourner en Languedoc ; mais il se pourroit bien que la venue de la flotte sur les côtés de Provence eût contribué aussi à faire ce detachement. Vous avez cette fois 5 postes d'Angleterre, peut-être que les nouvelles que vous aurez, pourront bien faire resoudre nos amiraux à rester encore quelques jours dans ces mers. On m' a dit que vous ne vous portiez pas trop bien. Il se peut que les fatigues du voyage auront altéré un peu votre santé, mais j'espère qu' un peu de repos vous rétablira, ce que je souhaite, et que vous soyez entièrement persuadé que je suis très parfaitement,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et trés obéissant serviteur,

A Monsieur l'Envoyé Hill, etc. etc. VANDER MEER.

Si vous envoyez quelque exprès à la flotte, je vous prie de le charger de cette incluse pour notre Amiral.

Turin, ce 16 Juin, 1704.

Monsieur,

La lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'

écrire le 13e de ce mois me fut renduë hier. Je n'ai jamais douté des difficultés que vous avez rencontré, et suis très aise que vous ayez cependant avancé les choses aussi avant comme vous avez la bonté de me mander. Les avis de Languedoc nous laissent la même incertitude sur le traité des Camisars comme vous verrez par la ci-jointe nouvelle qu'on m'a envoyé. Je n'ai aucune lettre de Monsieur de la Croix. Vous aurez ce que Monsieur Nicolas aura reçu. Le manuscrit de France n'en dit mot cet ordinaire, à ce qu'on me mande, mais je ne l'ai pas vu. Il semble qu'on en peut prendre un bon augure, et qu'on peut juger que parmi les Camisars on n'est pas d'accord, et que Monsieur de Villars ne cherche qu'en profiter, et de les désunir pour venir a ses fins.

Monsieur d'Auverkerch a forcé les lignes à Wasegem. Le reste Monsieur Chetwynd vous le dira. Le Gouverneur de Suse a été mis à la citadelle. Il semble que S. A. R. n' est pas content de sa conduite, et qu'il a agi de sa tête en rendant le fort qu'il pouvait défendre encore 3 ou 4 jours. J'ai fait vos complimens à toute l'assemblée, et suis chargé de vous en remercier, et particulièrement de la petite Comtesse, et de vous saluer. Tout le monde s'est réjoui de votre bonne santé, et moi particulièrement qui l'ai appris avec plaisir, et suis très parfaitement,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

A Monsieur Hill. VANDER MEER.

Le Duc de Marlborough vient avec un corps de Danois et Hollandois sur la Moselle, et était le 5 pas loin de Cologne.

Le Duc de la Feuillade a à Suse 22 bataillons et 4 régimens de dragons: bonnes troupes à ce qu'on m'a dit.

Au Camp de Crescentin, ce 17e Juin, 1704.

Monsieur Hill, Je n'ai pu apprendre qu' avec déplaisir que le débarquement de la flotte des alliés sur les côtes de la Catalogne n'ait pas répondu à l'attente où l'on en était. Il faut espérer qu'elle aura un meilleur succès dans l'entreprise

qui l'a convié à retourner en arrière pour empêcher la jonction du Comte de Thoulouse avec l'escadre qui est prête dans le port de Toulon.

Monsieur Le Prince de Darmstat m'a écrit la même chose que vous m'avez mandé, et je lui marque que, comme, après cette nouvelle expédition, il restera encore assez du tems à la flotte pour entreprendre quelque chose d'avantageux pour le bien de la cause commune, Je crois qu'il est très à propos qu'elle parte sur les côtes d' Italie, venant sur celles de Genes et de Toscane pour obliger la république et ce Prince à fournir les subsides nécessaires pour l'entretién des Armées d' Italie, dont vous connoissez le besoin ; et les ennemis n'ayant pas quitté le dessein d'attaquer les places de Nice et de Ville-Franche, ce qu'ils menacent encore de faire cette campagne, l'approche de la flotte pourra les en détourner, en quoi l'on ne fera que suivre le premier objet de sa venue dans la Méditerranée. Pendant ce tems là je fais état d'écrire à sa Majesté Imperiale pour savoir les vues qu'elle pourra avoir à l'égard des royaumes de Naples, et Sicile, lesquelles la flotte sera plus à portée de seconder selon qu'on jugera plus à propos de faire là-dessus. Je ne doubte pas que les puissances maritimes n'adhèrent à ce sentiment, pour ne pas perdre le fruit des frais si considérables qu'elles ont faits pour faire venir la dite flotte dans la Méditerranée, ce que je suis persuadé que vous appuyerez de votre côté, ayant autant de zèle que vous en avez pour les intérêts de la Ligue.

Je crois que l'embarquement est prêt à l'heure qu'il est, et que peut être Monsieur le Marquis de Betancourt sera déjà parti. Vous n'avez pas besoin que l'on vous anime pour cette expédition. Vous vous y portez naturellement de vous même par la connoissance que vous avez des conséquences importantes qui en dépendent. Il y a quelques avis qui marquent que l'affaire des Camisars est terminée, mais il y en a d'autres qui assurent le contraire. Vous examinerez les uns et les autres, ne doutant pas que vous n'en soyez particulièrement informé, et tandis que l'affaire ne sera pas entièrement terminée, et qu'il y aura encore quelqu' espérance, je suis toujours dans le sentiment qu'il ne faut point abandonner le projet, qu'au contraire il le faut mettre au plutôt en exécution.

Il est encore incertain si les ennemis ont ouvert la tranchée devant Verceil. Ceux qui sont du côté de Suse se sont rendus

maîtres du Fort après cinq jours de defense. Je suis, avec verité,

Monsieur Hill,

Votre meilleur ami,

A Monsieur Hill. V. AMEDE.

Au Camp de Crescentin, ce 17e Juin, 1704.

Monsieur Hill, Je viens d'apprendre par Monsieur Vander Meer l'agréable nouvelle que les Camisars ne se sont pas soumis. Je me rapporte à ce qu' il vous en écrira lui-même, ainsi je me restrains à vous dire qu'il est à propos de ne pas perdre un moment de tems pour l' expédition concertée; ne vous retouchant point les forts motifs qui doivent y engager, car vous les connoissez vous-même, et votre zèle me rend persuadé que vous n' y oublierez rien, voulant même croire, qu' à l' heure qu'il est, Monsieur le Marquis de Betancourt sera parti.

J'écris encore par cette voye au Marquis de Carail de vous faire fournir tout ce que vous jugerez nécessaire. Je suis véritablement,

Monsieur Hill,

Votre meilleur ami,

A Monsieur Hill. V. AMEDE.

Thursday morning, 1 o'clock.

Sir,

I fear the last letters I had the honour to send you would not have fully determined you to continue your design, nor have put you out of the pain, I am sensible, you must be in at the uncertainty of the news from the Camisards; I hope the enclosed from Mr. Colladon and the Marquis d'Arzilliers will quite determine you, and set your heart at rest. Mr. Nicholas has shewed me letters to the same purpose, copies of which he has promised me. The news is of such consequence that I have ordered an Estaffètte to be ready by three of the clock, by which time I hope to have deciphered your letters, which I shall send you: though it was nigh twelve of the clock when I heard the post was come in, yet I would not go to bed without the letters. I am well satisfied to take my rest after I [have] despatched the courier,

that you may be at ease so much the sooner. I am sorry to find all the letters which came by yesterday's post from Nice, take notice of your design, and that you were embarking troops to send to the succour of the Camisards; all the Town talks of it, and wonder Monsieur Vander Meer nor I know nothing of it. I wish it may not get into France before your little army, and make them prepare to receive your troops l'épée à la main. I have sent to Monsieur Vander Meer to receive his commands, if he has any for you. I hope Mr. Nicholas will soon send me the courier.

I have unciphered your letters; the orders they bring you are of consequence for you to know, so I hope you will excuse the hurry I am in to send them away. Monsieur Vander Meer writes me two lines to tell me, that he cannot have his letters till morning. I do not stay for them, believing he can have little more than what you will find in the enclosed. I hope your next will let me know when I may expect you here. Pray excuse me writing to Sir R. S., and tell him I received his letter yesterday, by the post, and will send the enclosed for England by to morrow's post. It is past two of the clock, and I hope my courier will soon be here. I am ready for him, and ever, with great sincerity,

Dear Sir,

Your most obliged and most faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. J. CHETWYND.

From M. Vander Meer to Mr. Hill.

Turin, ce 20 Juin, 1704.

Monsieur,

N'ayant reçu mes lettres de Genève hier qu' après le départ de l'exprès que Monsieur Chetwynd vous a dépêché, je n'ai pas eu l'honneur de vous envoyer copie de la lettre de M. de la Croix. Je jugeais que ce que M. Chetwynd vous envoyait suffisait pour vous déterminer, et qu' il n' était pas besoin de dépêcher pour cela un second courier. Mais depuis M. Flotard m'étant venu trouver avec deux lettres qu'il avait reçu de Roland, je jugeais la dernière,[1] dont je joins ici copie, assez importante pour communiquer à S. A. R. et ordonnais au Sieur Flotard d'aller à l'armée dont il est

[1] Inserted after the following letter from the Duke of Savoy to Mr. Hill.

retourné ce matin avec les ci-incluses que S. A. R. désire que je vous envoye par un exprès; à quoi je n'ai pas voulu tarder de satisfaire, bien que je sois persuadé que, si le vent a été bon, vous aurez fait partir la troupe, et qu' ainsi j'aurai bientôt l'avantage de vous voir ici, et de vous pouvoir réitérer de bouche que je suis très parfaitement,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

A Monsieur Hill. VANDER MEER.

From the Duke of Savoy to Mr. Hill.

Au Camp de Crescentin, ce 22 Juin, 1704.

Monsieur Hill, J'ai reçu votre lettre du 20e de ce mois, par la quelle j'apprends que l'embarquement n'était pas encore fait pour les motifs que vous me marquez. Vous aurez vu par la dernière que je vous ai écrite le 19, qu'il est indubitable que bien loin que les Camisars ayent posé les armes, ils sont animés plus que jamais, ce que M. Vander Meer vous aura confirmé plus au long. Il est de la dernière importance de ne plus perdre un moment de temps pour cette expédition. Je me flatte d'apprendre bientôt que M. de Betancourt sera enfin parti, car quand même il serait vrai que la plus part eussent quitté les armes, il suffirait qu'il y en restât quelques uns qui les eussent encore à la main pour les faire reprendre à tous les autres, lors qu'ils se verraient appuyés par l'exécution du projet; et même dans la simple incertitude s'ils les ont quittées ou non, je crois que le meilleur parti est de tenter l'entreprise, mais un nouveau retardement pour petit qu'il soit peut y être tout-à-fait préjudiciable. Votre pénétration vous en fera sans doute convenir. J'écris au Marquis de Carail de parler aux officiers et soldats destinés à cette expédition de la manière qu'il convient pous les y animer, étant persuadé que de votre côté vous n'oublierez rien pour leur faire aussi comprendre la gloire qu'ils ne manqueront pas de s'acquérir, et le grand avantage qui leur en reviendra. Nous n' avons ici aucune nouvelle remarquable du siège de Verceil. Je suis véritablement,

Monsieur Hill,

Votre meilleur ami,

A Monsieur Hill. V. AMEDE.

From M. Roland to M. Flotard.

Anduse, ce 22 May, 1704.

Mon très cher frère, j'ay reçu celle que vous avez pris la peine de m'écrire de Turin, le 21 Avril, qui me fait seulement réponse à la mienne du 10 Mars, qui m' a donné bien de la joye et à tous nos frères. Je vous diray mon cher frère que depuis celle je vous en ay écrit trois, deux par Lion, et l'autre par Marseille lesquelles vous instruiront au long de tout. Vous ne sçauriez comprendre le chagrin que nous avons de n'avoir pas de vos nouvelles. J'ay envoyé la votre au frère Cavalier où il pourra vous faire réponse et particulariser ses combats. Cependant, je vous diray que, graces au Seigneur, ils nous ont toujours esté fort avantageux, et il semble, comme nous n'en doutons pas, que le Seigneur combat pour nous. Le frère Cavalier en a fait plus de 30 avec des merveilleux succès, excepté celuy dont vous aurez appris la nouvelle par ma dernière, proche Nismes dans lequel il perdit considérablement de son monde, se trouvant enclos au milieu de trois ou quatre partis commandés par le Maréchal de Montrevel à la veille de son départ. Il avait cinq ou six mille hommes, dragons ou infanterie, s'etant battus pendant six heures. Je vous ai marqué que la perte fut fort égale. Le combat dont vous me demandez le detail précedoit celui-ci de quinze jours proche Uses, où le dit frère Cavalier defit un bataillon de vaisseaux, et quelques compagnies de dragons commandés par Monsieur de ....., Colonel du dit regiment. Tous les officiers resterent presque, excepté le Colonel et une trentaine de ses gens sans armes ni habits. Cavalier ne perdit qu'un de ses soldats et quelques blessés. Ce qui a jetté l'épouvante parmy les ennemis qui n' osent marcher sans quinze ou 16 cents hommes d'escorte. Depuis que le Maréchal de Villars est ici, il a fait faire continuellement des courses, tant dans le bas Languedoc que dans nos Cevennes, sans avoir, graces à Dieu, de rien avancé ce qui l'a obligé à nous faire faire des propositions de paix qui nous paroissent suspectes. C'est pourquoy ne pretendons nullement y aquiescer, quoyque nous ayons écrit à Monsieur le Maréchal, et fait nos demandes légitimes, qui est l'entier rétablissement de l'édit de Nantes, et la délivrance de tous les captifs, et que tous ceux qui sont hors du royaume puissent rentrer dans leurs biens et autres demandes légitimes, ce qui est plutôt pour

procurer du repos à nos troupes qui sont fort fatiguées, et d' ailleurs attendre l'honneur de votre réponse au plutôt, ce qui a donné lieu à une suspension d'armes jusques à la fin de ce mois, pendant lequel temps nous pourrons prendre dans les villes toute sorte de rafraichissement. On voudroit apparemment se servir ailleurs des troupes que nous occupons, mais soyez persuadés, que quand le Roy nous accorderoit toutes nos demandes, nous ne ferons rien sans votre contentement. Faites au nom de Dieu ce qui vous sera possible pour nous délivrer, et pour rentrer les uns et les autres dans nos biens. Nous en supplions tous nos frères qui prennent quelque part à l'affliction de l'Eglise. Je vous dirai qu' à la veille de cette trève je me trouvais près de St. Germain de Calberte avec mes gens. Un certain malheureux, de Viala de St. Jean de Cardonenque se faisoit escorter par un detachement du regiment de Tournon la boure et quelque milice, duquel avec l'aide du tout-puissant je laissay sur la place trois cents hommes. La plupart des officiers y restèrent excepté un capitaine et quelques soldats que je pris, et auxquels je donnay la vie. Ce malheureux de Viala y a resté. Il était subdélégué de l'intendant, et l'auteur du brulement de la campagne des Cevennes, et du pillage du bas Languedoc. Son fils qui était lieutenant y resta aussy, et par un effet de la toute-puissance de Dieu je n'y eus qu'un homme de tué, qui le fut même par nos gens fort innocemment. Le combat se donna en plate campagne. Nous y avons pris 20 chevaux, et quelques mulets chargés. Ce fut le 13 du courant. Je vous ay fait le détail de mes autres. Soyez assuré que nous ne ferons rien que par votre avis, et nous détiendrons les troupes ici autant qu'il nous sera possible. Faites au nom de Dieu diligence, et réponse bientôt, et vous suis mon très cher frère

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

'*A M. Flotard.* ROLAND.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 23rd June, 1704.

Sir,

I have sent you a copy of the last letter I was directed to write to Sir G. Rooke, that you may be acquainted with

what relates to the disposition of her Majesty's fleet in the Mediterranean. You will have heard what has passed in Portugal, where things are in such a posture, that they need a further and present assistance; and her Majesty, to shew that nothing shall be wanting on her part, is resolved to send thither, with all expedition, besides 1500 recruits, two entire regiments, to supply the places of Stanhope's and Stuart's, that we suppose have been ruined at Portalegre and thereabouts, and the King of Portugal seeming dissatisfied with the Duke of Schomberg,[1] her Majesty is inclined to recal him, if there be not a better understanding between them, that the service may not suffer; and we hope that King will shew his resentment against some of his officers who have been to blame, which he is now sensible of, and promises to do all things that may be for the benefit of the common cause, his own interest being more immediately concerned in the event of the war there. You may justly take occasion to value her Majesty's readiness to assist the King of Portugal, as an argument to the Duke of Savoy of her steadiness and zeal for her allies, which she has given his minister fresh assurance of, in what relates particularly to his master in answer to a message I delivered to her Majesty from him, "assuring her Majesty, that his master would remain firm to the "interest of the allies, depending upon her Majesty's assistance, to the utmost extremity." I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Mr. J. Tucker to Mr. Hill.

Cockpit, 23rd June, 1704.

Dear Sir,

I am in a fit of the gout, and a great deal of pain, seized on a sudden, so shall only trouble you with the commands I had from Mr. Secretary to send you the enclosed copy of a letter which he writ to Sir G. Rooke, on the 30th of the last month,[2] that you may see what her Majesty

[1] Captain-General of the Queen of Great Britain's forces in Portugal.

[2] The letter alluded to is printed immediately after this of Mr. Tucker's.

has thought fit to send to Sir George. I hope this will find you returned to Turin. I am ever, with great truth,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. J. TUCKER.

From Sir C. Hedges to Sir. G. Rooke.

Whitehall, 30th May, 1704.

Sir,

I have the favour of yours of 29th April, off Cape St. Vincent, which was forwarded by Mr. Methuen, and came to hand this morning, by an express despatched from Lisbon the 12th instant, giving an account that the Count de Thoulouse, with the French fleet, passed by the rock of Lisbon the day before, being the 11th instant, O. S., continuing their course to the southward; the appearance of the French after your leaving Lisbon put the Portuguese into great consternation and confusion; but since they are in all likelihood gone forward to Cadiz, I believe that alarm is over, and when they find Sir Cloudesley Shovel is sent for their support, and to strengthen your squadron, so as to make you superior to the French though their fleets were joined, they will be satisfied of her Majesty's care and concern for them, and convinced that the measures you have taken for proceeding to Barcelona with your whole squadron, without delay, were the most proper for preventing the designs of the enemy, and most conducive to the interest of the common cause. It is apprehended here that you have a sufficient strength to prevent the junction of the squadrons from France and Toulon, in case you should have the good fortune to meet with either of them before they are joined, and that the Count de Thoulouse is between you and Sir Cloudesley Shovel, who, we think, is but little inferior to him, of which you will judge by the enclosed accounts. This gives us great hopes that, through God's blessing on your conduct, we may have some good account of them. I send you, by her Majesty's command, the enclosed account of the strength the Count de Thoulouse has, and what may be added to him from Toulon, according to the best and freshest advices we have here, which is for your information, and that you may, by comparing and considering these advices with such others as you

shall receive, take such resolutions at a Council of War, as shall be thought fit and practicable for engaging, destroying, or annoying, the enemy; for since you and Sir Cloudesley Shovel, when you are joined or can co-operate, which it is thought will be in your power, it may be expected you will not, with such a superiority as you will have, lose any fit opportunity for attempting the French fleet, either at sea, or in any port, when it shall be thought advisable to attack them. Her Majesty has not thought fit to give you any new instructions upon this occasion, but relies on your prudent care and conduct for taking, and putting in execution, such resolutions as shall be thought best for her honour and service at a Council of War, and her Majesty hopes you will be in a condition to attempt something on the enemy, whether the French fleets are joined or not.

I am to acquaint you, that, to prevent any misunderstandings, you are to have particular regard to what may be proposed by Mr. Methuen, her Majesty's ambassador at Lisbon, for the security of the coast of Portugal, or any other service, when you shall judge it consistent with the orders you have received from her Majesty or the Prince. I am, &c.

Sir G. Rooke. [C. HEDGES.]

P. S. I find you have ordered the transports to follow you, which, I suppose, was in prospect of using of them at Villa-Franca; but if you find there is no occasion for them on that account, or that you have no other use of them, either for the transport of the Portuguese troops to Catalonia, or any other service, you will please to consider of giving such orders as are necessary for sending them home, since they will be a great charge to her Majesty, and no apparent advantage for keeping them with you.

From the Duke of Marlborough to Mr. Hill.

Camp at Langenan, the 24th of June, 1704.

Sir,

This will be delivered to you by your old acquaintance, Major General Belcastel,[1] and you will have been fully instructed of his business from England: his zeal for the public deserves all the encouragement we can give him, and,

[1] See page 98.

therefore, I doubt not but on that motive alone, without any recommendation from me, you will very readily afford him your furtherance and assistance, wherever it may be necessary. However, I am willing you should know that he is a gentleman for whom I have a particular concern, and that I shall always own your friendship to him as an obligation conferred on,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. MARLBOROUGH.

From Mr. J. Chetwynd to Mr. Hill.

Turin, the 25th June, 1704,
late at night.

Sir,

I am honoured with your letters of the 20th, 22nd, and 24th. I have sent all your enclosed to England, and have entered that to Sir Charles Hedges, as you ordered me. I wish you had sent me back those from Sir Charles to you, that I might enter them, I mean the two last, of the 16th and 19th May, for the others are already entered.

I did not write to you last Saturday by the common post, because I thought you would be set out from Nice before the letters could reach you. I am sorry you stay so long, and for the reason of your stay; I wish your folks were safe landed, for methinks I don't like Count Thoulouse being so nigh you, nor those three ships of war that watch you.

We have little news that can be depended upon from Verceil, the garrison has made two successful sorties; in the latter we ruined some of the enemies' works, and killed them several men; but not without some loss on our side, what I can't tell you, the Marquis de Pianez says it is inconsiderable; they talk of some officers killed, but we know nought; however, some ladies in our assembly are very uneasy and melancholy. The Marquis St. Amien, Marquis de Riverole, and Marquis d'Aiz are said to be killed or dangerously wounded, but there is nothing sure.

The letters which came from the Camp this day tell us, that the enemies have been obliged to change their batteries, and their attacks before Verceil, which took them up from

Saturday till this morning, when they began again to fire on the town.

The Duke de la Feuilliade has not stirred since he is master of Suse; they tell us he waits for 1500 more horse before he is to undertake any thing. We are so strongly intrenched at Velliane as to fear nothing on that side; but there are more ways to the wood than one. I shall have no letters till to morrow morning, which I shall despatch to you as soon as they come to hand; I have my Estaffètte ready booted and spurred; I hope, by his return, to know when we may embrace you. I long to see you, and, indeed, so does every body. I have made your compliments to all your acquaintance that I know: I have all theirs to make to you; but more particularly from your little Countess, and the Comtesse de Tarin. I must beg your pardon for opening your letter from the Duke of Shrewsbury; it was at Lord Huntingdon's request, who expected a letter from Lord Cardigan, instead of which he found one from his Grace. If I learn any thing to morrow morning, I will add it, and send you what news I can get from Mr. Nicholas. It is time to bid you good night, so I shall only desire that you will believe me ever, with a perfect esteem,

Dear Sir,

Your obliged and obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. J. CHETWYND.

From M. Vander Meer to Mr. Hill.

Turin, ce 26 Juin, 1704.

Monsieur,

J'appris hier, par M. Votre Sécrétaire, que vous ne seriez pas ici de retour sitôt comme votre précédente nous avait fait espérer, et les raisons qui vous obligeaient de vous arrêter à Nice; ce qui me donne un sensible chagrin, d'autant plus que les ci-jointes vous apprendront la nécessité de l'exécution du dessein, et que je crains qu'un plus long retardement pourra faire encore plus l'éclater qu'il n'a déjà fait. Car il y a déjà ici des lettres qui parlent de l'embarquement fait, et du général qu'on leur a proposé, et les drapeaux qu'on leur a distribués, bien que vos lettres n'en ont fait aucune mention. Cependant j'espère qu'un bon vent remédiera à tout, et qu'il me procurera bientôt l'avantage de vous embrasser, et de pouvoir régler avec vous ce que la situation des

affaires des Cevennes pourra requérir, et l'intérêt de nos maîtres demandera. J'ai écrit à Monsieur de la Croix qu'il peut envoyer son homme en R. pour animer ses amis et leur promettre qu'ils seront sontenus et secourus de la part des Alliés, et que j'attends votre retour pour régler ce qui regarde l' argent qu'il demande pour les Camisars; pour ce qui est de la récompense, qu'elle dépendra de la générosité de vos maîtres, qui la sauront égaler conforme aux services qu'il aura rendu, comme j'aurai l'honneur de vous faire voir plus amplement à votre retour.

Je vous envoye l'original da la lettre reçue l'ordinaire passé, et la copie de celle d'aujourd'hui. Pour la première vous aurez la bonté de me la rendre à votre retour.

M. de Belcastel est parti le 17e de Francfort, et il sera déjà à présent en Suisse.

Le Duc de Marlborough commandera une Armée sur le Danube; le Prince de Bade une autre; et le Prince Eugène celle qui est sur le Rhin contre M. de Villeroi et Tallard. Je vous souhaite une parfaite santé, et suis très véritablement,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

A Monsieur Hill. VANDER MEER.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

Windsor, June 27th, 1704.

Sir,

I have the favour of yours of the 9th, from Nice, and am sorry you take no notice in what state that affair was which occasioned your being there; but, perhaps, you may have done it by your letter, in cipher, to Mr. Secretary, of which I have yet had no account.

We are still without any certainty whether the Cevennois have made their peace or not; but we are in hopes of the latter.

As to the disquiet you expect the Duke of Savoy may have from the return of our fleet, you are sensible the intelligence which you say Sir G. Rooke had from Lisbon, made it reasonable, indeed necessary; but you will have seen by a copy sent you of the late instructions despatched to Sir G. Rooke, that he will be in a capacity of returning to your coasts upon any good occasion, whensoever you have ground

and time to send an express to him for that purpose; and if we should have the good fortune to succeed upon the Danube, suitably to the expectations of the world from that enterprise, it is not impossible, but that you may yet see a time, before the end of summer, for putting in execution the project we have long aspired to. If your old acquaintance[1] can be brought, or made *de gré ou de force* to change his side, his troops joined to those of Savoy, their friends and allies, will do the business; but you will say this is more like building castles in the air than destroying them in the water. However, I think one may be allowed to please oneself with visions, when one can have nothing more solid. By the way, the account from Lisbon of Comte Tholouse's fleet was not much better than Falstaff, of his men in buckram: he had but 23 ships of the line, though they were pleased to multiply them to 36. We have now here for our channel-guard 5 or 6 ships only, that came home with Sir Stafford Fairborne, and we are more triumphant in these seas with them than 50 or 60 would have made us at another time. So true a maxim it is, that force must always be measured by that of your enemy.

Pray do me the favour to send me word if you hear sometimes of the Duke of Shrewsbury.[2] I should be glad to know his health was better. I am always,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

P. S. Since I made up my letter I have seen yours to Mr. Secretary, and am in hopes you will pursue your first thoughts in favour of the Cevennois.

From Sir. C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 30th June, 1704.

Sir,

I have received the favour of yours of——[3] from Nice, which was sent me by Mr. Chetwynd,[4] with the duplicate of

[1] The Elector of Bavaria.

[2] See a series of the Duke of Shrewsbury's letters to Mr. Hill, in appendix D. in this volume.

[3] Date omitted in the original letter.

[4] Mr. John Chetwynd, Mr. Hill's Secretary; he was, afterward, second Viscount Chetwynd.

one of $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}^{\text{th}}_{\text{nd}}$ April, in cipher, as also your private letter, which I thank you for. I find you are somewhat in pain "for "Nice, and Villa-Franca, and Sir G. Rooke's going back to "the Straits;" but, considering the present posture of affairs, "you need not be in that pain, the French fleet" being "in "Toulon," and "Sir Geo. Rooke," as we hope, "joined with "Sir C. Shovel," and "superior to all the force France" has: and it is not to be imagined, that "he will quit those seas," and "leave the Duke of Savoy exposed to the insults of the ene-"my." You know that "Sir Geo. Rooke" was under "or-"ders in the" first place "to secure Nice and Villa-Franca:" and since there is no occasion "for him at Lisbon," as long as "the French are" about "Toulon," nor is there any other particular service, "on the coasts of Spain," in view, we believe it will not be difficult "for you to convince the Duke of Savoy," that care will be taken "for his security against "any attempt" that may be "made upon him by sea." We are glad to hear "the Camisars hold out," and that "you are" making all the despatch "you can with your little army to "them, counting," as the case stands, we have "no prospect of doing any thing at Toulon this summer." You know "the "fleet" must "come away in a proper season." I should be glad to know "the thoughts of that Court" concerning "the "fleet coming away, and what apprehensions" they have "of "being insulted by the enemy," and what you think "will "become of Savoy," if there be not "a favourable turn" before that. We think the "fate of Savoy will depend upon "the success of the Duke of Marlborough," who has it in "his orders, and his heart to assist Savoy," either "by "directly sending him succours," or "making a diversion," as shall be thought most advisable. We are in hopes "the "Elector of Bavaria will, when pressed, think of an accom-"modation," and if he does, Lord Marlborough is prepared for it; and if the Duke of Savoy can give any "assistance in it," he should "be put in mind of it." You are desired to "employ all your thoughts how to help the Ce-"vennois."

Upon the "representation of the King of Portugal," and the consideration "of the misfortunes of the army there, her "Majesty" has thought fit "to recal Duke Schomberg;" and to "send Lord Galway to command in his room," whereby it appears how "zealous her Majesty is for the common in-

"terest, and she" hopes that "the King of Portugal" will follow "her" example, and shew "his resentment against some of his ministers," who have shown themselves "to be "not well affected to the cause. The" said "Lord will be "going in 3 or 4 days." I am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Mr. J. Tucker to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 30th June, 1704.

Dear Sir,

I send you enclosed a letter from Mr. Clark, who is at Windsor, waiting on the Prince. I suppose he tells you that there has been a new commission passed for his Royal Highness, that he might have a power to increase the number of his Council to seven, which you have heard was before confined to five. On this new commission he is to receive the sacrament on Sunday, at Windsor, and the next day he is to be sworn in Westminster Hall; the Queen comes with him, and, I believe, will stay here three or four days, to see my Lord Galway despatched away for Portugal, to take upon him the command of the army there, in the room of Duke Schomberg, who is recalled, upon the King of Portugal and Mr. Methuen's representing the miscarriages of the army there to be occasioned in some measure by his Grace. That there have been very great miscarriages is most certain; but where the fault lies I cannot tell. I wish you good success in your negotiations, and happiness in all other respects, and am, with perfect truth,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. J. TUCKER.

P.S. I beg I may hear from you as often as you can.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

July 4th, 1704.

Sir,

I am sensible my last was a very remote visionary letter, and yet I am not out of hopes, but the sucess at Dona-

wert[1] may have brought that prospect a little nearer to your eye. In the mean time I hope our two squadrons, under the 2 knights,[2] are joined, and cannot fail of being much superior to the Comte de Thoulouse, from which I infer that he must fight us upon a disadvantage, or leave us peaceable masters of those seas, in either of which events, if you should have occasion for the service of your fleet, I hope it may still be in condition to obey your summons.

In case things should so turn in Germany as that any troops can be spared from thence, for the relief of the Duke of Savoy, Prince Eugene designs to march at their head, and I believe you do not doubt but he will make as much haste as the matter will bear.

I am sorry you delayed sending your little fleet to Languedoc upon the uncertain posture of their affairs, and am now much afraid the time is slipped for that matter. Not having any letters of yours to acknowledge since my last, I shall trouble you no farther, at present, but with the assurance of my being ever,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall 4th July, 1704.

Sir,

I find by Mr. Chetwynd's of $\frac{16}{27}$th past, that the little fleet is put to sea, with which we are very well pleased here, thinking they will be a seasonable assistance to the Camisars, who, according to all accounts, are still in arms, and may be capable of making a good diversion to the French troops that may be otherwise employed against the Duke of Savoy.

My Lord Treasurer, when he writ his letter to you, did not know that this embarkment was put to sea, and desired me to tell you so. Count Briançon had his first private audience of the Queen to day, and Count Maffei had his of leave, and will depart from hence in a few days, and, we do not doubt, will give such an account of our dispositions here, as will be entirely to his master's satisfaction. By the Por-

[1] Alluding to the Duke of Marlborough's victory there, over the French.

[2] Sir George Rooke and Sir Cloudesley Shovel.

tugal letters which came in on Saturday, the prospect of affairs there is very much mended: the particulars of what they bring are in the prints, as is also the account of the Duke of Marlborough's success at and near Donawert. Sir George Rooke was off of Alicant 8th June, and Sir C. Shovel designed to part from Lisbon, and go towards the Straits, the 12th, to meet him, so that we do not doubt but they are joined. I am,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 7th July, 1704.

Sir,

We are now sensible here "of the danger the Duke "of Savoy" will be in, "if not supported," and are "taking "the best measures for his encouragement." There is no doubt but "Sir G. Rooke and Sir C. Shovel are joined:" and according to the "contents of Sir G. Rooke's last letters he "is returned into the Mediterranean," which will give you "good countenance" on that side; but it seems "as neces- "sary to provide" also "for some help," either by "an im- "mediate support, or by way of diversion in Italy;" and in case "of success in Bavaria," and that "the Elector can be "gained, either by force or treaty," the next work will be "to attempt driving the French out of Italy," and, I believe, nothing will "divert my Lord Marlborough from that design," there being no "service of so much consequence as the as- "sisting the Germans with the Duke of Savoy." Count Maffei goes on board to morrow. I am,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, July 11th, 1704.

Sir,

Our letters from Lisbon of the 2nd inst., N. S., bring the good news of the junction of our Admirals on the 27th

past, near Lagos, and Sir G. Rooke's letter intimates that they had thoughts of looking after the French, to whom they are much superior; but whether they will proceed that way, or attempt something on some considerable town in Spain, to which they are very much pressed by the Kings of Portugal and Spain, who offer land-forces to co-operate with the fleet, is very uncertain; however, I thought it worth your notice. The Earl of Galway takes his leave to morrow for Lisbon, where he will succeed the Duke of Schomberg, her Majesty having thought fit to recal his Grace upon the complaint of the King of Portugal. You will have heard of the wretched management of affairs there; the last letters give us an account that makes us apprehend the loss of Steward's regiment, and if better measures are not taken for the next campaign, there is little hope of success. Her Majesty does all that is possible to give new life and vigour, having ordered a battalion of the guards, and a regiment of dragoons, to be embarked forthwith, besides 1500 recruits and a regiment of foot, to fill up that of Stanhope's, which was taken at Portalegre; and if the States will concur, and advance $\frac{1}{3}$ of the charges, there will be 18 troops of dragoons raised of the French refugees, and a 1000 horses will be sent to mount the English and Dutch troops, as soon as possible, there being not enough horses for that purpose in Portugal. I am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From the Earl of Nottingham to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, July 18th, 1704.

Sir,

I am extremely sorry to find by yours of the 4th, S.N., that you had not received the letter in which I gave you an account of my resigning the Seals; for this I did do, and to you only, of all my correspondents abroad, as the person on whose friendship I entirely depend, and, therefore, chiefly valued it; and I thought I could not better preserve it than by shewing you I had not made myself unworthy of it by a base desertion, and quitting of my station for fear of my enemies. This never gave me a moment's disquiet, nor did I

regret the labours, and anxious cares, of a very troublesome office. But the proceedings of those, who called themselves, and should have been too, my friends, in reference to myself, my country, and the Queen herself, were intolerable. And how sweet soever the quiet of a retreat is in itself, these have made it more so, and it is the only obligation I have to them. But I have very many to you, and they are the greater because I have not deserved them, and I can now pretend no title to the continuance of your friendship, but an extreme desire of it, which is the best pledge I can give you of my resolution to be ever, most truly, and with great respect,

Your most humble and most faithful servant,

To Mr. Hill. NOTTINGHAM.[1]

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

18th July, 1704.

Sir,

I find you expect "little" from "Monsieur Belcastel's "scheme;" and "Mr. Aglionby giving no" hopes of his doing "any good in Switzerland," I believe you will not have any better opinion of it when you have "spoken with him." The "Marquis de Miremont" has a mind to try what he can do, and "Comte Briançon" having desired "the Queen" to encourage his proposal, "her Majesty hath" been pleased "to de- "clare, that if" it will be a means "to keep the Duke of "Savoy's" subjects in obedience, or be any ways serviceable "to his Royal Highness, she" will not only "do her part," but likewise "recommend it to the States-General for their" concurrence, and has already "ordered him a commission of "Lieut. General." I was glad to hear "that your little fleet "was returned," since "the alarm was taken," and "the "French" had laid "out, by sea and land, to intercept them." We have a report that some "of the adventurers are destroy- "ed;" but not hearing of it from you, we hope it is without grounds. I have the favour of yours of the first, and 4th inst., N.S., and am,

Sir,

Your most faithful and humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

[1] Daniel, second Earl of Nottingham. In 1729, he succeeded, also, to the title of Earl of Winchelsea, Viscount Maidstone, &c.

From Mr. J. Tucker to Mr. Hill.

Cockpit, 25th July, 1704.

Dear Sir,

We are told here, that it is scarce possible to get a letter to you, and that your last letters to us are intercepted; however, I venture this to you, though I have only to tell you, that, on Saturday last, at noon, the Earl of Galway sailed with the Tartar from Spithead, for Portugal, with a fair and fresh gale of wind. There lies at Portsmouth a battalion of the guards ready to embark when the transports are ready there, which I am told will be to morrow, or next day; and then they are to take with them the 1500 recruits, one regiment of foot, and one of dragoons, from Ireland, and so make the best of their way for Portugal, where, I fear, they are sufficiently in want of them, though I hope that matter may yet end well. The Marquis de Miremont is like to have a commission to raise and command some Vaudois for you, wherewith he is not a little pleased, as you will easily believe. To day morning between 10 and 11 of the clock, Sir Chr. Musgrave was seized with a fit of apoplexy, and continues so ill of it, that his life is despaired of. We have had no late news from Sir George Rooke; but the party here roar at him, that he did not destroy the French fleet before they reached Toulon, whether he could or not, and are resolved he shall never go to sea again if they can prevent him. Our affairs in Scotland go but very untowardly, as you will see by the enclosed.

I should be glad to hear oftener from you. There is no body more than myself,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. J. TUCKER.

From M. Flotard to Mr. Hill.

`A Genève, ce 2e Août, 1704.

Monsieur,

Par trois lettres de M. de Vander Meer, que j'ay reçu tout à la fois, je vois avec chagrin que votre Excellence persiste à vouloir exiger de moy une chose qu'il m'est impossible de luy accorder, qui sont, les noms de mes correspondants

en Cevennes, auxquels j'ay fait serment de ne pas les confier à qui que ce soit. Il me semble que votre Excellence, sabhurte[1] à vouloir une chose, dont la connoissance ne peut luy estre; d'aucun usage au lieu que je vous offre, Monsieur, des assurances certaines et positives, en vous donnant icy un répondant pour les sommes qui me seront confiées, jusques à ce que je produise des reçus des chefs des Cevenols bien réconnus. Il est même facile à votre Excellence de faire ordonner aux personnes qu'elle a fait envoyer en Cevennes d' avoir les seings des chefs, et de vous les envoyer afin que vous puissiez mieux reconnoitre, Monsieur, que la bonne foy est le fondement de tout ce que j'entreprens, et que je ne suis pas indigne de la confiance que nos souverains m' ont fait l'honneur d'avoir en moy. J'ay fait tout ce qui m'a esté possible pour exhorter les Cevenols à la persévérance. Il ne c'est rien passé que j'aye cru pouvoir les affermir par l'espérance ou par la crainte, dont je ne leur aye fait part. Ainsi s'ils succombent je n'auray rien à me reprocher.

Ayant d'autre part assez représenté à votre Excellence la nécessité qu'il y a de leur envoyer quelque secours d'argent, ce qui aurait evité suivant moy bien des accidents.

Je ne doute pas que votre Excellence n'ait eu des raisons très fortes pour en user autrement, lesquelles je ne dois pas pénétrer. Dieu veuille que le tout réussisse à l'avantage des hauts alliés, et à la gloire de Dieu. Je suis très profondement, et avec respect,

D. V. E.

Le très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

'A Monsieur Hill. FLOTARD.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 4th Aug. 1704.

Sir,

I have none of yours to answer; but having received letters from Portugal, the freshest whereof are of $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{3}$th past, and, with them, some from Sir G. Rooke, I think it may be convenient to give you an account of some matters relating "to the fleet. The siege of Cadiz" was once proposed "to "Sir G. Rooke," but it was laid aside again upon his remon-

[1] So in the M.S.S.

strances, that, for want "of a land-force" sufficient for "such "a service," it could not be "attempted." Then it was resolved, "that the fleet should summon the" considerable "ports to come in to their natural Prince," and especially those "of Andalusia," and, upon their refusal, "to do them all the "hurt" that possibly they can, which might "oblige them to "draw" a good part "of their forces out of Portugal." It has since been "proposed to Sir G. Rooke, to take port "Mahon," if he thinks that feasible, and "for the advantage" "of the alliance." And he has "a latitude of acting in the Mediterranean," with regard "to the safety of Nizza, as well as other services. The French and Spanish forces were drawn out of Portugal, and gone into quarters of refreshment on their own frontiers; but the Portuguese have resolved, notwithstanding the heats, to march into Spain, and carry the war thither, and both the Kings intended soon to follow the army. I am,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From M. Flotard to Mr. Hill.

'A Genève, ce 9e Août, 1704.

Monsieur,

J'eus l'honneur d'écrire à votre Excellence le deux du courant, pour lui remontrer l'impossibilité dans laquelle je suis de vous donner les noms de mes correspondants. Par le courier d'aujourd'huy je viens de recevoir une lettre des Cevenols, dont j'ai cru devoir vous envoyer copie, afin que refléctrissant à leur état, il plaise à votre Excellence de se servir des voyes qu'elle jugera le plus sures pour leur faire compter quelque argent, en attendant mieux, sans s'arrêter à des choses de nulle conséquence. Vous remarquerez, Monsieur, que les Cevenols ne voyant aucun effet de mes promisses, vent jusques à croire, que je fais un établissement de ce qui devroit leur estre envoyé, ne pouvant pas s'imaginer, que l'Angleterre et la Hollande les abandonnent jusques à ce point. Vous scavez, Monsieur, s'ils me font injustice. Je suis bien malheureux qu'après avoir fait tous mes efforts pour leur procurer du secours d'une manière et d'autre ils ayent une telle pensée

de moy. Je ne sçaurais pourtant les en blamer éstant bien difficile à se persuader que les puissances protestantes ayent negligé une affaire sy capitale jusques là que leurs ministres refusent de faire un essay de quelques milliers de livres pour les faire compter aux Cevenols. Cependant je ne sçaurois souffrir qu'ils me crussent plus long temps capable d'une action sy noire, et je me vois forcé de leur donner une relation exacte de tout ce que j'ay fait; par qui et sous quel prétextes on a differé de leur envoyer de l'argent. Ce que je différai pourtant jusques à l'honneur de votre réponse, car il seroit beaucoup mieux d'éviter d'entrer dans un pareil détail en leur envoyant quelque chose. Je ne sçais qui est cet imposteur, qui a parlé aux Cevenols comme venant d' Angleterre, et d' où il a sçu mon nom. J' aurai soin de les désabuser. Je suis en peine qu'ils n' eussent pas encore reçu quatre lettres que je leur ay écrit d'icy, non plus que moy la leur, du dix huit, de quoy je seray bientôt informé s' il plait au Seigneur. Je n'ay pas le temps d'envoyer copie de l'incluse à son Altesse Royale; ainsi je supplie votre Excellence de vouloir luy en faire part, et à M. de Vander Meer. J' attendrai surtout icy vos ordres avec beaucoup d'impatience afin de m'y conformer. Le courier d'Allemagne nous manqua hier. Nous sommes dans l'attente d' en recevoir de grandes nouvelles. Dieu veuille nous les donner favorables, afin que son Altesse Royale puisse estre mise en estat de s' opposer aux forces françoises. On dit la flotte alliée sur les côtes d'Espagne dans la Méditerranée. Sy elle pouvoit rejoindre Monsieur de Tholouse, qui est en mer, ce seroit un grand coup. Je suis, avec un très profond respect,

D. V. E

Le très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

A Monsieur Hill. FLOTARD.

Depuis ma lettre écrite j'ay reçu avis d'un de mes correspondants que toutes mes lettres estoient en bonnes mains. J'espère de recevoir celle des Cevennois du 18 Juillet.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 11th Aug. 1704.

Sir,

I received the favour of yours, 15th, 17th, 22nd, 25th

past, and 1st inst., N.S., all together, and have laid them before her Majesty. The principal design of Belcastel's project was for the support of the Cevennois, and did regard the assistance of the Duke of Savoy by way of diversion to the enemy; but from all accounts there is no prospect of that gentleman's succeeding; so that there is no occasion for your saying any more on that subject, but, in general, that her Majesty will do all she can for the encouragement and support of the Duke of Savoy. If what the Duke of Marlborough did on the 2nd past, afforded you so much comfort and relief, the glorious and entire defeat he gave the French and Bavarian armies in conjunction, on the 13th inst., N.S., will secure you from returns of any apprehensions, for we are all of opinion here, that we shall soon hear of Prince Eugene with a good army in Italy, and if Sir Geo. Rooke should give the Count de Thoulouse a good blow, it would remove all our fears.

If you have signed with the Duke of Savoy, and engaged her Majesty for two months' subsidies after the war is at an end, the Queen is pleased to approve of it, and if it be not done, her Majesty makes no difficulty in empowering you to sign, and you may do it, making the best terms you can for her Majesty's advantage, and securing an article in favour of the Vaudois as you propose. It is to be wished that the States' minister would concur with you; but it is left to your prudence to negotiate this matter as well as you can; and to give the Duke of Savoy satisfaction in this particular, if you find him continue to press you. Perhaps this last success in Germany may give you some ease in this matter. You have power to sign, and it is not doubted but you will make the best use of it. I am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 15th Aug. 1704.

Sir,

I have received the favour of yours of the 5th inst., N.S., which I have laid before the Queen, and her Majesty

approves of your sending 200 pistoles to Monsieur Roland, and you do well to take the States' minister along with you in all matters of that nature. Her Majesty, likewise, approves of your disposing of the 500 fire-arms in the Lyme, in the manner you propose. Since our success in Germany, Count Briançon has applied to her Majesty, desiring that his Master's men, taken prisoners at Verceil, may be exchanged for some of the French we have in our hands, and I have writ to the Duke of Marlborough upon that subject, though I believe his Grace had it before in his thoughts to take care of that matter. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

Aug. 15th, 1704.

Sir,

I am very glad to find, by yours of the 5th, that you were well recovered again of the illness which had confined you for some days before.

There are certainly very great difficulties in bringing any thing to bear for the assistance of the poor Cevennois, as you have found by your own experience; but that must not discourage us from trying what is not wholly impossible.

I think of Flotard as you do; I look upon Belcastel's undertaking to have very little foundation, and Miremont's project not much better; but the Spaniards have a saying, el desenganno se toma, y no se da.

The havoc which the Duke of Marlborough has made of the French troops in Germany, will, I hope, give them ease with the rest of the world; but, superlative as this victory has been, I doubt it will not yet make way for my project, because our fleet will not stay in the Mediterranean till they can have heard it: or else I should hope my Lord Marlborough would have it in his head and his heart as much as I have had.

Our last news from Sir G. Rooke gave an account, that he had possessed himself of Gibraltar, which, I suppose, you hear sooner than we. I know not how far it is tenable, or can be of use to us; those at Lisbon will be the best judges and directors of that matter.

I hear from all hands of so great a scarcity of money in

France, that if we can stop their returns from the West Indies, it will not be possible for them to continue their present expense another year.

God send this vision be more real than the other for which you seem to contemn me so much; but you must allow, that view is not altogether so remote as it appeared to be in the beginning of this summer.

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

From M. Flotard to Mr. Hill.

'A Genève, ce 20 Août, 1704.

Monsieur,

Je viens de recevoir celle que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 14 du courant, inclus le billet de cent louis d'or sur Messieurs Lulin et Nicolas. Les louis ont augmenté icy de deux sols piéce, et comme M. Nicolas craint que vous ne voulussiez pas luy tenir cette augmentation à compte, il veut me la rabattre. Cela n'empêchera pas que nous ne fassions affaires; je ne lui feray reçu que de ce qu'il me comptera, et par le courier de Samedy j'en feray l'envoy, duquel avec l'ayde de Dieu vos Excellences auront satisfaction. Pour la provision de ceux, entre les mains de qui cette affaire doit passer, j'en feray le meilleur parti possible, et je compte que tous fraix faits, quinze pour cent argent de France, nous tireront d'affaire.

Votre Excellence sera satisfaite de la caution, qui je donne. Je vous demande pardon, Monsieur, sy dans mes lettres il vous a paru un peu trop d'ardeur; mais je vous prie de vous mettre à ma place. J'ay exposé ma vie pour le service des H.A. [Hauts Alliés], et pour ma patrie sans en avoir exigé aucunes conditions pour mon établissement. Lorsquy j'ay été, de retour des Cevennes, j'ay reconnu que certaines gens qui n'auroient pas eu le courage de faire ce voyage, ont tâché de faire douter de la verité du mien. Cette imposture n'est pas plustôt dissipée que je me vois soupçonné d'une encore plus noire par mes compatriotes, pour lesquels je me suis exposé, et le fais tous les jours moi, et toute ma famille. Que votre Excellence juge elle même ce qu'elle ferait en pareil

cas. Il ne tient pas à moy que vous n'ayez des ordres positifs. Pour cela j'en ay écrit plusieurs fois en Angleterre et en Hollande; on m'a toujours répondu de m'adresser à votre Excellence comme ayant les ordres nécessaires pour cela. Je vous ai toujours offert, Monsieur, de donner un répondant pour la sureté de votre Excellence. Je demanderai au chef Roland raison des cent louis dont me parlez. Je luy ay écrit à ce matin pour luy donner part de la signalée victoire remportée en Bavière avec toutes les circonstances, et pour donner foy à ce que Monsieur Roqueirol leur a dit; ce qui m'avoit fait croire qu'il leur avoit imposé fut, qu'il leur dit m'avoir parlé, et venir d'Angleterre. Ne le connoissant pas, je craignois que ce ne fut quelque détour de la France pour sçavoir nos intelligences. Cela estant très dangereux, il est bon de prendre les précautions nécessaires. Je leur écrivis même en réponse de bien examiner les déserteurs qui leur venoient, crainte qu'ils ne fussent envoyés par nos ennemis pour les trahir, ou pour se défaire des chefs par le poison, car il n' y a rien dont ils ne soient capables. L'ordinaire passé je reçus une lettre de St. Ipolite, d'où l'on m'écrit que le Baron d' Aigalières y doit lever un régiment de religionnaires sur le pied étranger avec liberté de conscience. La vue de la France est de dépeupler ce pays, et d'affoiblir les troupes des Camisars. Dans ma lettre d'aujourd'huy je leur en représante le vénin caché sous des apparences trompeuses, et par celle que je leur écrirai le prochain je continueray à les assurer qu' on travaille à la levée des troupes destinées pour leur secours. Ce fut Monsieur La Croix qui me désabusa sur le sujet de Monsieur Roqueirol. Je fus à Morges, exprès pour m'en éclaircir. Vos Excellences doivent estre persuadées que je ne négligeray rien de ce que je croiray estre utile à la cause commune. Je vous prie, Messieurs, de vouloir la dessus me continuer vos bons avis, et m'accorder l' honneur de votre protection. Je suis, avec un très profond respect,

De votre Excellence,

Le très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

A Monsieur Hill. FLOTARD.

J' omettais à vous dire, Monsieur, que le manuscrit de Lundy disoit, que le chef Roland estoit mort en dinant dans

un Chateau. Les lettres particulières n'en disent rien. Demain nous en serons éclaircis.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 22nd Aug. 1704, S.V.

Sir,

I have received your favour of the $\frac{1st}{12th}$ inst., with the memorial relating to Monsieur Belcastel, and the answer to it, as also that gentleman's relation to the States concerning that matter, and the state of the expense of the 3000 men, all which have been laid before her Majesty; but I have no orders for you upon them: whatever becomes of this project, I can tell you the Marquis de Miremont has a very great opinion of his, and is preparing to go for Holland with a great train of refugees, not less than 800, as the report goes, which is looked on as a good beginning: he proposes, at least 6000, in all, and tells me, he is assured of the States coming into $\frac{1}{3}$ of them. The Queen has already given orders to advance £1000 for subsisting and transporting these refugees into Holland, and if the States think fit to encourage this design, in concurrence with her Majesty, the measures for carrying it on are to be concerted in Holland. I acquainted the Marquis with the difficulties you were under in obtaining a promise from the Duke of Savoy, that 3000 men should be appropriated to the assistance of the Cevennois, and that you could not succeed in it; but this gave him no uneasiness. He thinks, since he desires no more than a passage through Piemont, that the Duke of Savoy will make no sort of scruples, or pretend, in the least, to have any command over these troops. I must desire you to explain to me, whether the person you employed for your expedition was the brother of Count Guiscard, or whether the name you gave him was not a feigned name; it is a matter much talked of in town, and, so far as is fitting, I would set it right, though I shall observe whatever you desire, and take no farther notice of it than you think proper. Her Majesty has been pleased, not only to approve of your sending the 200 pistoles to the Cevennois, but to empower you to advance more for that service in concurrence with the minister of the States-General. I am, &c.,

To Mr. Hill. C. Hedges.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

St. James's, Aug. 22nd, 1704.

Sir,

I beg leave to thank you at once for yours of the 5th, and 8th, by which I see your affairs have been, for some time, in a very critical position. I am apt to think Monsieur de Vendôme's[1] grace to you proceeded from some defect of his, of which you were not sensible, or else, that he staid for the return of his courier, to which noble method of the French we are not a little obliged, since it must needs make their Generals lose many a fair opportunity. The Duke of Marlborough's late success[2] will, I hope, have settled the wavering thoughts of your Court; since now, to use your own expression, you may see your safety without the help of a perspective glass.

I am very glad you have signed the treaty with the Duke of Savoy, and I think it was very right, while he was losing his country for the allies, not to refuse him so small a satisfaction.

As for Belcastel's embassy, or Miremont's project, I have little faith in either; but I see they will engage the Queen and the States in a great part of the expense proposed, before people will be convinced it is all to no purpose.

I am very well pleased to find Flotard has redeemed himself with you, and, by consequence, with me. The least you can do for him now is, to encourage and make use of him; I believe he can find ways of sending some money to those poor people, if he be not trusted with too much at a time.

It does not appear very strange to me, that you can get no men where you are for the assistance of Sir George Rooke, while you want so much assistance yourselves. We know not what to think at present of that gentleman's circumstances, or, indeed, of any thing else, that depends upon them, having been amused by the last Dutch post with several private letters of Paris, taking notice that there had been a battle at sea: if it be true, God send us a good account of it.

[1] Louis, Duke of Vendôme, great-grandson of Henry IV., being descended from one of his illegitimate sons. At this time he was Commander in chief of the French forces in Italy.

[2] Alluding to the Duke's success on the Danube.

I shall take care to satisfy Sir James Bateman when he presents your bills, and am always,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

From Mr. Harley to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, August $\frac{11}{22}$th, 1704.

Sir,

I have the favour of yours, of the 25th past, accompanied with a copy of your letter of the 11th of the same month, N. S.

I return you thanks for your obliging expressions of friendship, which I shall always value, and hope our good successes upon the Danube will put it into the Emperor's power to send succours to his Royal Highness, and preserve our alliances in Italy, where so considerable a diversion is given to the arms of France. I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. RO. HARLEY.

From M. Flotard to Mr. Hill.

'A Genève, ce 23 Août, 1704.

Monsieur,

L'ordinaire passé je répondis à l'honneur de votre lettre, du quinze, et immédiatement après je fus trouver Messieurs Teissier et Coubier, qui me firent leur billet de garantie. Le Jeudy je l'apportay à Monsieur Nicolas, qui en fut très content, mais comme j'allois recevoir l'argent, on me rendit mes lettres de France, entre lesquelles j'en trouvay une d'un de mes correspondants de Nismes, qui me confirme la nouvelle que j'ay déjà donné à votre Excellence, de la mort du chef Roland, et de la prise des sieurs Malplach Secrétaire, Malien, et un ou deux autres, de sorte que craignant que par les tourmens on les obligera à parler, ou qu'on ne leur aye trouvé quelqu' une de mes lettres, par où on pourra

découvrir ma corréspondence, j'ay jugé qu'il n'y auroit pas de la prudence de leur envoyer cet argent qu' auparavant nous ne soyons pleinement instruits de la suite de cette fâcheuse affaire; et pour cet effet j'ay écrit aux autres chefs par la voye que je crois la plus sure, que j'avois de l'argent entre les mains pour leur envoyer; mais que ce contretemps estoit cause que je n'osois le leur expédier avant avoir reçu de leurs nouvelles pour sçavoir sy je pouvois toujours seurement me servir des mêmes voyes; que sitôt avoir leur réponse je le leur envoyerois; que celuy la seroit suivy par d'autres à mesure que nous recevrions leurs reçus, et enfin qu'on travaillait avec application à la levée d'un bon corps de troupes pour leur secours; les exhortant toujours à tenir fermes. En attendant leur réponse j'ay laissé les cent louis chez Messieurs Lulin et Nicolas, auquel j'ay communiqué ma pensée qu'il a approuvée. En effet ce seroit mettre son argent trop à l'aventure, et risquer de mettre en peine bien de gens. La mort de ce chef est fâcheuse dans cette circonstance de temps. J'espère pourtant que les autres ne laisseront pas de faire leur devoir, et de mettre à la tête de la troupe de ce chef un homme de confiance. Du suivy[1] j'auray l'honneur d'en donner avis à vos Excellences. Cy-après aurez la copie de la lettre en question, qui est malheureusement confirmée par bien d'autres. Je suis très profondement et avec respect,

De votre Excellence,

Le très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

'*A Monsieur Hill.* FLOTARD.

Depuis ma lettre écrite je viens d'en recevoir un autre de Nismes mieux circonstanciée que la première, qui m' apprend l'exécution des cinq prisonniers. Le témoignage qu'on m' y rend de leur mort exemplaire me fait espérer que ma correspondence n'en souffrira pas; de quoi j'aurai bientôt s'il plait à Dieu un parfait éclaircissement.

"'A Nismes, le 18 Août, 1704.

"Monsieur,

"Vous aurez sans doute appris ce qui se passe en l'af-
"faire des Camisars qui donnent en Languedoc tant de trou-

[1] So in the original.

"bles. Je dois vous dire que le 13 de ce mois Roland se trou-
"vant du côté de Brignon avec une douzaine de sa troupe
"lorsqu' ils eurent soupé un homme d' Uses, duquel il ne se
"méfioit pas, leur dit; "Vous devriez, Messieurs, vous aller
"reposer un Chateau de Castelnau, et y coucher tandis que
"j'irai faire pêcher dans la nuit et prendre du poisson que
"vous apporterez à votre troupe." Roland crut ce que cet
"homme lui en dit et fut à Castelnau avec ses gens pour y
"coucher; mais cet homme au lieu d'aller pêcher fut à Uses
"avertir les troupes. M. de Peral qui y commande ramassa
"tout autant de dragons qu'il peut, et les envoya tout droit à
"Castelnau qui est à trois lieues du dit Uses, où ils arriverent
"le Jeudi 14 à six heures du Matin; et, comme de ce Cha-
"teau l'on découvre de bien loin, l'on dit que Roland et les
"autres s'en apperçurent, mais trop tard; car comme les
"troupes venoient au galop ou au grand trot, ils n'eurent pas
"le temps de monter à cheval. Ils eurent seulement celui
"de sortir du Chateau, et, etant poursuivis, Roland fut tué,
"et cinq des autres pris. Le Vendredi ils furent conduits ici
"avec le cadavre de Roland. Le Samedi 16, l'on fit leur pro-
"cès, tant aux vivans qu'au cadavre, qui ne donna pas beau-
"coup de peine à instruire. Ils furent condamnés à être
"rompus vifs, et à expirer sur la roüe; ce qui fut exécuté
"le même jour. Le cadavre de Roland[1] fut trainé sur une
"claye au pied de l'échafaut, et ensuite brulé. L'on dit que
"les cinq qui ont été rompus ont fait une mort exemplaire.
"On dit aussi que la troupe de Roland s'est rangée sous les
"autres chefs, que cette exécution a rendu furieux. Il est
"à craindre qu'ils n'en prennent bientôt revanche. J'ai cru
"que je vous ferois plaisir de vous faire ce petit détail, et
"suis [etc.]"

Vos Excellences verront par là que la mort de ce chef n' aura pas de plus fâcheuses suites pour l'affaire générale. Le risque de cent louis ne seroit pas grande chose pour l' Angleterre et la Hollande en attendant la réponse des autres chefs; mais comme j'en suis garant, et que la perte en seroit trop considérable pour moi, si vos E. jugent à propos de les risquer pour le compte de nos souverains elles n'ont qu' à m'en don-

[1] A copy of a letter from Roland to Flotard, found in the hand-writing of the latter, is inserted immediately after this. It is of so interesting a character, that the Editor thought he should do wrong to withhold it.

ner l'ordre. Je prendrai pour en assurer le succès toutes les mesures possibles, et je crois qu'il nous réussiroit, de quoi je me remets à votre volonté et prudence.

From M. Roland to M. Flotard.

'A Dusfort, ce 1re Août, 1704.

(Copie)

Monsieur et cher frère,

Par ma dernière, du 18 du mois passé, je vous ai fait réponse à vos trois dernières, du 20, 24, et 27 Juin. Vous ne m'avez pas avisé la réception de celles du 12, et 24 Juin; par icelles je vous ai marqué notre constance et fermeté malgré tous les efforts de nos persécuteurs, qui nous fatiguent beaucoup; ce qui marque la nécessité d'avoir du secours, ce que vous nous avez toujours fait espérer, et qui devroit être arrivé il y a longtemps. Cependant nous n'en avons rien vu ni ressenti. J'ai cru que pendant cette foire de Beaucaire nous aurions l'honneur de vous voir, ou quelq'un de votre part avec d'argent pour pouvoir faire quelques provisions de blés et autres choses nécessaires pour notre entretien. Sur cela je me suis flatté de même que mes confrères que j'ai toujours encouragé autant qu'il m' a été possible. Nos persécuteurs exercent des cruautés qu'il faut bien être fortifiés et secourus par le Seigneur pour ne point tomber sous la tentation. Le Baron d'Aigalières est revenu de Paris. Il nous a fort fait solliciter à conférer avec lui sur des nouveaux moyens de paix par ordre du Roy. Je ne voulois point m'aboucher dérechef. Cependant mes amis me l'ayent conseillé. Je l'ai fait. Il m' a dit que le Roi ne vouloit du tout point permettre la liberté de notre religion en France, mais que si nous voulions sortir avec tous les religionnaires, il nous donneroit une province avec autant de biens que nous en avons ici. Ce que j'ai refusé, lui ayant dit que je voulois rester dans mon pais natal en faisant la fonction que je fais jusques au dernier soupir de ma vie, et de tous mes confrères, et que nous étions touts prêts à immoler nos vies puis qu'il ne nous restoit autre chose, nous ayant brûlé et pillé nos biens; et que d'hors en avant on n'eut plus à nous faire de semblables propositions; que quand même le Roi nous accorderoit l' exercice public de notre religion nous prétendons avoir l'Angleterre et la Hollande pour garants. Ainsi nous avons re-

poussé fortement cette nouvelle tentation par la grace de Dieu. Je vous laisse à penser les cruautés qu'ils exercent. Ils enlevent tous les parens de ceux qui sont avec nous, et les trainent dans des cachots, sans que pourtant, graces au Seigneur, aucun de mes gens songé à se rendre; qu'il lui plaise de nous fortifier à la persévérance pour obtenir cette couronne de vie qu'il reserve aux siens. Je vous dirai qu'il est venu ici nous trouver un Monsieur, nommé Roqueirol, se disant de Castres et venant d'Angleterre pour voir en quel état nous étions, et de ne nous point effrayer, qu'on nous préparoit du secours mais qu'il ne pouvait pas s'exécuter cette campagne si bien qu'on le souhaiteroit, mais que pour d'argent on nous en ferait tenir incessament. Je ne le voulois pas écouter sans qu'il me dit le mot que vous m'aviez laissé, mais il me dit votre nom, et vous avoir parlé amplement, mais que vous ne lui aviez pas voulu dire le mot. Il s'en revint même, et me dit qu'il vous parleroit. Je vous prie de m'en donner avis. Si nous ne nous étions flattés de recevoir de l'argent, ce qui nous fait grand tort, nous aurions pris d'autres voyes pour faire quelques provisions de blés pendant la recolte, qui s'en va être finié, ce qui nous donneroit lieu à nous opposer plus fortement à nos persécuteurs; nous aurions un grand nombre de déserteurs, nous en avons avec cela et même des anciens Catholiques et des Anglois. Je vous dirai, mon cher frère, que nous avons sujet de murmurer contre vos promesses pour n'en avoir jamais senti aucun effet. Nous craignons que ceux qui nous pourroient secourir demandent premièrement a s'établir. Cependant étant tous membres de l'église de Jesus Christ, ils devroient songer qu'en conscience ils sont obligés à sacrifier leurs vies et leurs biens pour notre délivrance, comme nous les en avons suppliés avec toute l'instance possible, ce que nous faisons encore de même que Monsieur Le Marquis de Miremont, notre général, et tous nos autres frères refugiés de France. Ce sont principalement eux qui devroient être portés d'un désir ardent de revenir dans leur pais et délivrer leurs frères d'un si dur esclavage. Nous combattons, et le ferons jusques aux derniers soupirs de nos vies pour nous en affranchir. Le Clergé est enragé, et se croit perdu; ils voyent les miracles que Dieu fait en nous, et voudroit faire égorger tous ceux qu'on detient dans les villes. Nous craignons pour ce funeste spectacle après cette campagne. Ils s'en vantent même, et il est certain qu'ils rempliront tous ce pais de troupes pour ex-

ercer ces dernières cruautés. Nous avons toujours toutes leurs troupes en détachements après nous de deux ou trois mille hommes chacun ; par la grace de Dieu nous nous tenons si bien sur nos gardes et alertes qu'ils n'ont peu jusques ici nous surprendre. Je finis en vous conjurant par le nom du Seigneur de nous donner quelque secours.

(Signé) ROLAND.

From the Duke of Marlborough to Mr. Hill.

Camp at Spire, the 8th September, 1704.

Sir,

Yesterday I received together the favour of your two letters, of the 16th, and that of the 26th, past. I had one, at the same time, from Monsieur Belcastel, of the 22nd; but that you mention, wherein he should have given me an account of his negotiation, is not yet come to hand. I am heartily sorry to see, by your letters, the ill posture the Duke of Savoy's affairs are in, and the more for that he can expect no present relief from hence, other than the necessity the enemy may be in, by our late successes, to withdraw part of their forces from Italy. Comte Maffei will be at Turin before this can reach you, and, no doubt, will have acquainted you with the measures that are taking for your assistance, provided you can hold out till the end of this campaign.

I cannot but wonder that the Duke should make any difficulty, at this juncture, of granting whatever may be desired by Monsieur de Belcastel, since it must every way tend to his Royal Highness's advantage.

I own my particular obligations to you for the share you take, in so friendly a manner, in what relates to myself; and though it is not likely I shall determine any thing, in what you mention, till the end of the campaign, yet your reasons are so solid and good, that they must have great weight with me in the resolutions I shall take in that matter.[1]

The last of our troops are this day come over the Rhine, and the French have likewise brought all their joint forces on the other side the river Queik to oppose our passage, so that in two or three days we may guess what we shall be able to do.

[1] Mr. Hill in his letter to the Duke, of August 26th, 1704, had begged him, whatever titles he might take, not to give up the name of Marlborough.

You will excuse me, that I am not so punctual, as I should [be,] in answering all your letters; but I know Mr. Cardonnel[1] corresponds with you by every post, and gives you an account of all occurrences, though, by the irregularity of the conveyances, the letters are long coming to hand. I am, with much truth,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. MARLBOROUGH.

From Mr. A. Stanhope to Mr. Hill.

Hague, September 9th, 1704.

Sir,

Yesterday I received your favour of the 21st August, as I had done, three or four days before, the large packet it mentions, by way of Francfort, from Mr. Davenant. I delivered the same day to the Marquis Del Bourg[2] what belonged to him, and will forward the rest to Mr. Secretary Hedges, by the ordinary this night, as you direct, it being very uncertain when there may be an opportunity of an express. I do not wonder Monsieur de Vander Meer[3] had no powers to sign with you. All is out of order here: and here are two Provinces that will concur to nothing proposed by the rest, and, indeed, it is Holland alone that supports the Government. One good thing they did lately of themselves, with a very good grace, which was, to order recruits for their troops on the Danube, immediately after the news of our great victory there, and Holland advanced the money.

There is no question but his Royal Highness will soon feel the effects of that glorious success, the Comte de Goes[4] assuring me, that orders, men and money, will very speedily be sent to Comte Linaigne,[5] to enable him to march with the body he has in Tyrol back again into Italy, to make a diversion in the Duke's favour, and that the Emperor's Generals on the Danube have intimated to Monsieur Tallard,[6] that the French lately taken at Blenheim shall be treated after

[1] The Duke's private Secretary.

[2] A Minister of the Duke of Savoy at the Hague.

[3] Envoy from the States-General to the Duke of Savoy.

[4] Imperial Minister at the Hague.

[5] An Imperial General. [6] Marshal of France.

the same manner with the garrison of Verceil. We hear Ivria is invested; if it be taken, I doubt our communication with you will be much interrupted; but the winter will, I hope, come on time enough to save Turin; and there will be no danger for it in the spring, when the French are like to have work enough nearer home. Monsieur Del Bourg was mightily pleased with the character you give of his Master's steadiness, and confirms to me the same.

I can tell you nothing of our army here, who seem resolved to make their campaign all of a piece, and puts me in mind of that of the two kings of Brentford that lay incognito. Had they behaved themselves like our friends on the Danube, this year had ended the war.

We have no news from Sir George Rooke, since [he left] Gibraltar, but confused stories of a battle, and that he has beat the Comte de Thoulouse; they are brought to us the wrong way, that is, from the army in Germany, which makes us very much doubt the truth. I am, with great truth,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. A. STANHOPE.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 12th September, 1704.

Sir,

The treaty you have lately signed with the Duke of Savoy has been read to day before the Lords of the Committee of Council, who have approved of it; and I am to wait upon the Queen to morrow for her Majesty's signature to the ratification of it, and the separate articles. There is one defect in it which I believe you were not aware of, that is, the article, concerning reparation to be made to her Majesty for the injury done her in setting up the title of the pretended Prince of Wales which ought to have made part of the grand alliance, is omitted. I send you herewith a copy of the article, whereby all Princes that enter into the said grand alliance are to be obliged to sign the said article, as being of the same force with the treaty itself; and you are to frame a small treaty to that purpose with the Duke of Savoy, which we do not doubt but his Royal Highness will readily consent

to, and, therefore, her Majesty, relying upon his honour in that point, which is of importance, will make no scruple of ratifying the treaty as it is at present. I send you likewise a copy of a proposal of the Marquis de Mouchy, about raising a regiment of Swiss. He is a person unknown to us here, and I desire to know from you, if you have any account of him, that we may be the better prepared, by having a character of him, to give him an answer to his proposition.

I have, by her Majesty's leave, been fourteen days in the country, and have the favour of yours, of 22nd, and 26th, to acknowledge. The Marquis de Miremont does not intend to proceed without men; he has many that go with him into Holland, and seems not to doubt of completing the number proposed by him. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

P. S. The treaty about the pretended Prince of Wales being proposed by us, it may more properly come from hence.

From Mr. Secretary Harley to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, $\frac{5}{16}$th September, 1704.

Sir,

Her Majesty is taking the best care she can for supporting the Duke of Savoy, and that the real effects of this glorious victory may reach his Royal Highness as well as the fame of it, Count Briançon delivered me this day a very earnest well-penned memorial, which I have laid before her Majesty, and have, by her orders, assured him that her Majesty will do her utmost to influence the sending immediate and sufficient supplies; for it is that which is of the greatest consequence, not only to preserve his Royal Highness, which is a just debt to his own magnanimity, and other great talents, but further to enable him to act offensively. This will have wondrous effects every where, and particularly help us rightly to apply our sea-force. I have, also, this night sent copies of the said memorial to the Duke of Marlborough, and to Mr. Stepney, with directions to each of them, to do all that is possible in this affair. I know, by the letters I have already received, how ready the Duke of Marlborough is to promote

it, and I have given you all these particulars, that you may be enabled to explain to his Royal Highness her Majesty's zeal and firm resolutions to promote his interest.

Secretary Hedges's absence in the country gives me this opportunity, without being impertinent, to assure you with how much respect I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful and most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. Ro. Harley.

P. S. I hope Mr. Ellis gave you notice, last post, of the receipt of your letters.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Windsor, September 15th, 1704.

Sir,

Her Majesty has signed the ratification of the treaty with the Duke of Savoy, not doubting but his Royal Highness will come into the article relating to the pretended Prince of Wales, which was signed by the Emperor and the States-General, and agreed by them to be of the same force as if it had been word for word in the grand alliance, and this matter, as to the despatch of it, is recommended to your care.

An express arrived here yesterday morning from Sir G. Rooke, bringing an account of a very smart engagement with the French fleet, on the 13th past, not far from Malaga; for the particulars I refer you to Sir George's letter, which I take to be a very just and impartial account, and the best that I can give you. All that I can add is, that, considering the circumstances of the fleet, and the condition of Gibraltar, he has taken the best measures possible for the security of that important place; having left the Prince of Hesse, at his request, 60 great guns, with their carriages, 60 gunners, 12 carpenters, and the Star and Terror bomb-vessels, with orders to keep their mortars on board, or take them on shore, as the Prince of Hesse shall judge best for the service; and for the garrison he has left 2000 marines, with 3 months' provision for them. It is hoped the Kings of Spain and Portugal will soon send another garrison to their relief, that these marines may return home, pursuant to the orders left by Sir

G. Rooke to Sir J. Leake, who stays in those parts with a squadron of 10 ships of-the-line, 2 frigates, and a fire-ship, according to the treaty with Portugal.

All that I have to add to Sir G. Rooke's account is, that the loss we have sustained is of 2 commanders, viz., Sir A. Lake, and Captain Caw, about 8 lieutenants and inferior officers, and 687 seaman, slain: the wounded are 1663, whereof 31 are officers, and among them Captains Minge, Baker, Jumper and Mighells. The Dutch have of killed and wounded 400. What the loss of the French is appears only by the report mentioned by Sir G. Rooke. If the French are returned to Toulon, you will be able to inform us more particularly; but whatever that is, I cannot but think Sir G. has succeeded very well, considering the detachments that have been made from the fleet. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges To Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 19th September, 1704.

Sir,

I send you enclosed a draught of an article concerning the pretended Prince of Wales, to be signed by the Duke of Savoy, as a part of the grand alliance, which he is entered into. The article in Latin, which is to be inserted in this, I have already sent you.

You will have seen by the copy of Sir George Rooke's letter, which I have sent you, and by the prints, what account we have, from the fleet, of our victory over the French at sea; but we have reason to hope that it is still greater, and that we shall hear of more damage done to the French than is yet discovered.

The affairs in Poland have had an extraordinary turn, King Augustus having marched into Warsaw, where he has taken prisoners three Swedish ambassadors, who were sent by that King to the new King Stanislaus. The bishop of Posen, and 2 sons of the Crown-General, the new-elected King, the Cardinal Primate, and the Crown-General narrowly escap-

ed being taken, which has very much changed the face of the Swedish affairs in that country.

They write from Hamburgh, that they have advice from several places, that the Muscovites have taken Narva by storm. I am, always,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

P. S. The 4 mails which arrived yesterday brought me none from you.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 26th September, 1704.

Sir,

I have received the favour of yours of the 2nd, 9th, and 12th inst., N. S. which having been laid before the Queen, her Majesty approves of the good offices you have passed with the Duke of Savoy in favour of Monsieur Cavalier, and would have you give him encouragement as occasion may be. Her Majesty, likewise, approves of your sending the Lyme and Mary-Galley to Genoa, to convey from thence some vessels laden with salt for Piedmont, as a service done to his Royal Highness, which she is always ready to promote. As to the two officers who fell into the hands of the French, and were executed by them, for whom you propose reprisals to be made, you will please to let us know whose subjects they were: if they were French we can make no reprisal, but upon Irishmen that may fall into our hands.

As to succours for Italy, the Queen has done, and will continue to do, all she can, that forces may be sent thither as soon as is possible. I find that you have already an instruction to go to Venice, to negotiate their entrance into the grand alliance, &c., and that you are provided with a commission to treat with them, as occasion may be. And now, upon what you writ in yours of the 2nd instant, concerning a treaty proposed for Italy, into which the Republic of Venice is invited to enter, her Majesty allows you a latitude of going thither, as you see occasion, if you have hopes of doing any good there for the common cause, and you will, by next post, have credentials sent you to the Senate, to be made use

of as you shall think requisite, if you can make a step thither without prejudice to her Majesty's affairs in Savoy. I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

September 26th, 1704.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge the favour of yours of the 29th of August, and of the 2nd and 12th of September.

I am glad the bills you last mention came so seasonably to you, and shall, this week, endeavour to send you some more.

We are very sensible of your pressures in Piedmont, and so are your friends in Germany. Comte Maffei will have explained to you what they think of doing for your relief; but I hope the Duke of Marlborough has something more in his thoughts, which may take place, though, perhaps, it was not then ripe enough for him to communicate at that time.

Sir G. Rooke is arrived at Spithead, without any ill accident in his return. The battle at sea has passed to our advantage, I think, by the Comte de Thoulouse's own relation of it; but the consequences of it will, I fear, not be to yours, since our fleet has been obliged, by the season of the year, to return, and leave theirs in those seas; it was certainly very unfortunate that we should not meet the French for 6 weeks together, [when] that we had so great a superiority as might have gained a complete victory, and happen to meet them at last when they were rather the stronger fleet of the two.

Mr. Secretary Hedges will answer that part of your letter to me relating to the Venetians. I am, always,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Windsor Castle, 29th September, 1704.

Sir,

I send you herewith two credentials to the Republic of Venice, one of them giving you the character of her Majes-

ty's Envoy Extraordinary, and the other without any, either or neither of which you may use, as you shall [have] occasion, for her Majesty's service. Amongst the instructions you have already, there is one for inviting that Republic into the grand alliance, which I think is all that is needful for you, till you see whether they shew any disposition towards coming into it. I am, &c.,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Credentials of Mr. Hill to the Republic of Venice.

Anna, Dei Gratiâ, Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ Regina, Fidei Defensor, &c.: Serenissimo Principi Silvestro Valerio, Duci Venetiarum, et Serenissimæ Reipublicæ Venetæ, Amicis nostris Charissimis, Salutem, et prosperos rerum Successus. Serenissime Princeps, et Serenissima Respublica, cum de Rebus quibusdam, tam ad publicum Europæ Bonum quam ad privata Vestra, Reique publicæ Vestræ Commoda plurimum, Nostro quidem Judicio, Spectantibus, Consilia Vobiscum, Prudentiæ famâ celebribus, communicanda censuerimus, virumque ad opus hoc egregium idoneum, deligendum duxerimus, Fidelem Nobis et Dilectum Richardum Hill Armigerum, Dominum de Hawkestone et Atcham, Serenissimo Principi Georgio, Principi Daniæ, Marito Nostro præcharissimo, et Summo Angliæ, et Hiberniæ Amirallio, a consiliis, cujus Industriam et Prudentiam in arduis Negotiis gerendis jamdudum perspectam penitus habemus, potissimum ad Vos, et Rempublicam Vestram Titulo Ablegati Nostri Extraordinarii ornatum, mittendum existimavimus, Ejus itaque Adventum gratum Vobis futurum speramus, et ut faciles ei aures præbere, Fidemque Integram adhibere velitis in iis omnibus, quæ Nomine Nostro prolaturus sit, rogamus, præcipue autem in iis Sermonibus, quibus præclarum Nostrum in Vos, et Rempublicam Vestram Studium, Summamque Benevolentiam declarare conabitur. De cætero Vos, et Rempublicam Vestram Divini Numinis Tutelæ ex animo commendamus. Dabantur in Arce Nostrâ Vindesoræ, die 29° mensis Septembris, Anno Domini 1704, Regnique Nostri Tertio.

Vestra Bona Amica,

C. Hedges. ANNA R.

Credentials of Mr. Hill to the Republic of Venice.

Anna, Dei Gratiâ, Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ Regina, Fidei Defensor &c.: Serenissimo Principi Silvestro Valerio, Duci Venetiarum, et Serenissimæ Reipublicæ Venetæ, Amicis Nostris Charissimis, Salutem, et prosperos Rerum Successus. Serenissime Princeps, et Serenissima Respublica, cum de Rebus quibusdam, tam ad publicum Europæ Bonum, quam ad privata vestra, Reique publicæ Vestræ Commoda plurimum, Nostro quidem Judicio, Spectantibus, Consilia Vobiscum, Prudentiæ famâ celebribus, communicanda censuerimus, virumque ad opus hoc egregium idoneum, deligendum duxerimus, Fidelem Nobis et Dilectum Richardum Hill Armigerum, Dominum de Hawkestone et Atcham, Serenissimo Principi Georgio, Principi Daniæ, Marito Nostro præcharissimo, et Summo Angliæ, et Hiberniæ Amirallio, a consiliis, cujus Industriam et Prudentiam in arduis Negotiis gerendis jamdudum perspectam penitus habemus, potissimum ad Vos, et Rempublicam Vestram mittendum existimavimus, Ejus itaque Adventum gratum vobis futurum speramus, et ut faciles ei aures præbere, Fidemque Integram adhibere velitis in iis omnibus quæ nomine Nostro prolaturus sit, rogamus, præcipue autem in iis Sermonibus, quibus præclarum Nostrum in Vos, et Rempublicam Vestram Studium, summamque Benevolentiam declarare conabitur. De cætero vos, et Rempublicam Vestram Divini Numinis Tutelæ ex animo commendamus. Dabantur in Arce Nostrâ Vindesoræ, die 29° Mensis Septembris, Anno Domini 1704, Regnique Nostri Tertio.

Vestra Bona Amica,

C. Hedges. ANNA. R.

From Mr. J. Tucker to Mr. Hill.

Windsor Castle, 3rd October, 1704.

Sir,

This evening three mails from abroad coming in together, Mr. Secretary directs me to acknowledge the favour of two from you to him, of 19th and 22nd inst., and to give you some assurance of a letter from himself in answer to those, by the next post. In the mean time he commands me to acquaint you, that my Lord Galway and Mr. Methuen having repre-

sented to the Queen the great use of Gibraltar, and the necessity of preserving it, by putting a garrison of English and Dutch into it, and Sir George Rooke having been here, and concurring in the same opinion, that point is resolved upon; and stores are ordered out of the Tower, to be immediately sent thither, with a store-keeper, engineer, and other officers proper for that purpose.

Sir Geo. Rooke has, likewise, proposed the sending 6000 land-men on board the fleet the next year, to be made use of as occasion may be for the good of the service, which is so listened to, that I perceive Mr. Secretary is of opinion that matter will soon be taken under consideration. I must confess that I am glad to see that our successes have encouraged our vigour. I wish the like could be said of the States; but merchants (as they are) will still have a greater regard to their own private-personal interest than to the general-public good; and I wish that principle of theirs does not, one time or other, put us here out of humour; they cannot forbear being too thrifty, and endeavouring to persuade us that their security ought to be more our concern than their own, and, consequently, oblige us to take upon us as much of the expense of the War as they please; but enough of this. I will only add that I am, with perfect esteem, and truth,

Sir,

Your most humble and obedient servant,

To Mr. Hill. J. TUCKER.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Windsor, 8th October, 1704.

Sir,

That part of yours of 22nd September which was in figures, could not be laid before the Queen the last time I was here, for want of the cipher, and not having an opportunity then to receive her Majesty's commands upon it, I directed Mr. Tucker to write to you, and acknowledge your letter: however, so soon as your letter was deciphered, I sent an extract of it to my Lord Treasurer, who is at Newmarket, and, also, gave the Duke of Marlborough an account of the great strait the Duke of Savoy was in, by the last post. He is the best judge of what can be done, and I do not doubt

but as he has a great authority, so he will employ it, as much as possible, to send his Royal Highness a seasonable relief. Her Majesty thinks it is of the greatest moment, and that no time should be lost in it, and does concern herself with all the earnestness imaginable that it may take effect; and she is doing not only all that immediately depends on her, but is also pressing her allies to a speedy concurrence, and to do their parts, of which you are to acquaint his Royal Highness. I am afraid the raising of Irish troops, as you mention, is impracticable, and, at best, a succour very remote. Her Majesty would be glad to contribute all that is in her power to do something effectual and suitable to his present necessities. I hope Mr. Tucker, as I directed him, acquainted you that care was taking here for preserving Gibraltar. I am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 20th October, 1704.

Sir,

That we may know how our correspondence has been carried on these three last months, I have ordered search to be made, and find that my letters to you were of the 4th, 7th, 11th, and 18th July, the 4th, 15th, 22nd August, 12th, 15th, 19th, 26th, 29th September, and 8th inst.; by which I have acknowledged the receipts of yours of the 1st, and 4th July, 5th, 12th, 22nd, and 26th August, and the 2nd, 9th, 12th, and 22nd September, since which I have received yours of the 1st inst., enclosing a copy of that of $\frac{14}{25}$th past, which did not come to hand before.

The treaty with the Duke of Savoy is exchanged with Count Briançon, and you may give the Duke positive assurances that he will never be abandoned by the Queen, and that her Majesty will use her utmost credit and authority with the Confederates, to induce them to comply with their promises to him more punctually for the future.

The siege of Landau has continued longer than was expected; but we are assured that when that is over, there will

be effectual care taken to assist his Royal Highness, and, if he can hold it out a little longer, we are farther assured, that there will be fifty thousand men to assist him in Italy. I am, &c.,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

Mr. J. Chetwynd to Mr. Hill.

Turin, the 21st October, 1704.

Dear Sir,

I design to send your letters by the courier, which is just now going from the post-house to the camp, those gentlemen having promised to stay till I have made up my packet for you. I hope you will receive it sooner than if I had sent it away by one of your servants, unless he had gone post, which is scarce worth while for the little news you will receive. Every body speaks of the account of the action by sea; but nobody has sent it. Bagelaar says just the same thing as Monsieur Scudamore, so I keep his letter. I send you my letter from Fisher. I shall be glad to receive your directions in it, as also about what I must write to morrow: I have no news. I heartily pray for your safe return; bullets respect nobody, and I cannot but be in pain for you, being, with the greatest devotion and esteem,

Dear Sir,

Your most obliged and obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. J. CHETWYND.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 27th October, 1704.

Sir,

I have none of yours now to acknowledge, having received none from you since mine of 20th inst., wherein I gave you an account of all I had received from you, and sent to you, for some months past. I write you this to acquaint you with "matters" relating to "Portugal and Gibraltar," which it is necessary you should know, not only for your own information, but that you may impart them to "the Duke of "Savoy," for his satisfaction. "Her Majesty" is come to a resolution to make a present provision "for the safety of the

"garrison," though it be at "her own charges," and, besides, the "stores of war, ordinance, and officers," that were left there by "Sir G. Rooke," and other things for the better "defence of that place," which, as it is now, we are in no apprehension of, though "the Marquis de Villadarias[1] was "before it by land, and a French squadron by sea." But our last advices from thence say, "the French ships" were gone off, though it was not known whither. "Her Majesty" is sending "more ships to Lisbon, to" strengthen "the squad-"ron there," and is exhorting the "States-General" to do the like, that they may be in more readiness to go "early in "the spring into the Mediterranean, where her Majesty de-"signs to have a powerful fleet next year."

You will see by the Gazette that Count Briançon had a public audience of her Majesty. Sir David Mitchell is gone into Holland, to make a convention with the States concerning the fleet to be employed the next year. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.[2]

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill,

Whitehall, 3rd November, 1704.

Sir,

I have none from you to acknowledge, since my last to you of the 27th past; but "Count Briançon" having given in a "pressing memorial," I would not omit giving you an account of it. He earnestly desires some "present help may "be sent to his master," and, particularly, a "body of English "troops," if they can possibly be spared. He likewise desires "leave to raise four thousand Irish, at his Master's "charge," and prays her Majesty will permit "her two fri-"gates, that are at Villa-Franca, to remain there all this win-"ter for the defence of the coasts," and for "disturbing the "French in landing their forces," and that "her Majesty

[1] Despatched by the Spaniards to retake Gibraltar from the English.

[2] This letter was intercepted by the French; but, at last, was sent by the Duke of Vendôme to the Postmaster of Genoa, with several other letters, from whence Mr. Hill received it, 26th February, S. N., 1705

"would send his Master three hundred[1] fusils" and as "ma-"ny bayonets." There is yet no answer given to it, the Lords of the Committee having thought fit to appoint a day on purpose to take this memorial into their consideration, before they give her Majesty their advice upon it.

"Monsieur Hoffman" having represented to her Majesty, that it would be prejudicial to the interest of the allies, if the Republic of Venice should take Mantua into their protection, and put a garrison into it, which the Courts of France and Rome are now negotiating with them, her Majesty has commanded me to declare to the Venetian ambassador here, that her Majesty shall look upon such a step, if made by the Republic, as a breach of their neutrality, and that if any ill consequences attend such a proceeding, they will be answerable for them, and, therefore, she hopes they will be cautious how they engage in a matter of this nature.

In mine of 26th of September, I acquainted you, that upon what you writ in yours of the 2nd, concerning a treaty proposed for Italy, into which the Republic of Venice is invited to enter, her Majesty allowed you a latitude of going thither as you saw occasion, if you had hopes of doing any good there for the common cause; and with mine of the 29th September, I sent you two credentials to the Senate, one with the character of Envoy Extraordinary, and the other without it, to be made use of as you should think requisite, if you could step thither without prejudice to her Majesty's affairs in Savoy, which I repeat to you, not knowing whether those letters may have come to your hands. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 7th November, 1704.

Sir,

The Count de Briançon having desired, in his master's name, that her Majesty's two frigates, now at Villa-Franca, may remain there all this winter, it was referred to the consideration of my Lord High Admiral, who has no ob-

[1] In a following letter, of the date of Nov. 10th, it is *three thousand.*

jection to it, and those two frigates, being under your directions, are to remain there this winter as desired.

The Lords of the Committee of Council intend to have a conference to morrow night with the Count de Briançon on the subject of his memorial mentioned in my last to you, being desirous to give his master all the satisfaction in his demands that may be. I am,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 10th November, 1704.

Sir,

In mine to you, of the 3rd inst., I gave you the heads of Count Briançon's memorial, and told you the Lords of the Committee intended to take a day to consider of it before they would give their advice upon it; and on Wednesday last they had a conference with the Count upon that subject. The heads of it are four: one is, about the two ships continuing at Villa-Franca all the winter, which, as I acquainted you in my last of the 7th inst., was granted; another head was, about "raising Irishmen," for his master's service, which it is thought, will be "to raise" rather "men for the French "than for our service;" a third is, for sending his master "3000 "fusils,[1] and as many bayonets," which her Majesty was disposed to do; but the Count was not clear whether the charge of them should be deducted out of the subsidies to be paid his master; so that nothing was determined upon those two points. The most important of all was, the "sending his master a succour of troops," which her Majesty is come to a resolution in, and has sent directions this night "to the Duke "of Marlborough" to comply with that proposal, if he has no objection against it. The "number," as we understand by his discourse, is "eight thousand men in English and Dutch "pay," expected "after the siege of Landau is over." I am,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

[1] Mr. Hedges' letter, of November 3rd, mentions, under another cipher 300, but it was undoubtedly a mistake.

From the Duke of Marlborough to Mr Hill.

Au Camp, devant Landau, ce 13e Nov. 1704.

Monsieur,

Monsieur le Marquis de Prié m'ayant dit qu'il s'offroit une occasion d'écrire à Turin, j'ai été bien aise de m'en servir pour vous faire ces peu de lignes, et vous apprendre que ma présence n'étant de guère d'utilité icy au Siege, qui pourroit encore trainer quelques jours, J'ai pris la résolution de faire un tour à Berlin pour tâcher d'obtenir quelque prompt secours du Roy de Prusse pour Monsieur le Duc de Savoy. Vous jugerez facilement que rien que mon zèle pour le service de son Altesse Royale me pourroit déterminer à un tel voyage dans la saison où nous sommes, et quand vous savez que ma présence est si nécessaire en Angleterre. Je pars demain de grand matin, et vous prie de vous servir de la première occasion pour assurer son Altesse Royale de mes très humbles respects, et que personne au monde ne peut être plus devoué que je suis à ses interêts, dont j'espère de trouver bientôt le moyen de le convaincre par des effets. Je suis très sincèrement,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

A Monsieur Hill. LE DUC DE MARLBOROUGH.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 17th November, 1704.

Sir,

I received yesterday the favour of yours of $\frac{4}{15}$th and $\frac{18}{29}$th past, wherein you acknowledge mine of 22nd of August, as the last you had received, and desire that letters to you may be sent, under cover, to Sir Lambert Blackwell, at Florence, by which way I send you this, as I do a duplicate of it by the Count de Briançon's way, to see which will first come to hand. I have writ you several since August, which I hope are come to you, though I cannot yet have notice of it. In mine to you of 26th September, I acquainted you, that, upon what you writ in yours of 2nd, concerning a treaty proposed for Italy, into which the Republic of Venice is invited to enter, her Majesty allowed you a latitude of going thither, as you should see occasion, if you had hopes of doing any good

there for the common cause; and with mine of the 29th September, I sent you two credentials to the Senate, one with the character of Envoy Extraordinary, and the other without it, to be made use of as you should think requisite, if you could step thither without prejudice to her Majesty's affairs in Savoy, which I repeated to you in mine of the 3rd inst., and do so now again for the more surety's sake, since the passage for letters is so difficult. "Count Briançon" has read me a letter from "the Duke of Savoy," containing the strongest "protestations of his adhering to the interest of the alli-"ance," and "sacrificing all" before he will "stoop to France." He desires "her Majesty's protection," and that "she" will take care of "him at a general peace. He" is satisfied with the ratification of the treaty, and makes no scruple of the additional article about "the pretended Prince of Wales. He" desires more "frigates" may be sent to "Villa-Franca," and says, the States will send "two of theirs from Lisbon," if "the "Queen" will order "two" more of "her's" to those "two" that are there. "Her Majesty" is willing to do all things for the satisfaction and security of "that Duke;" but desires to know what sort of "port Villa-Franca is," and whether her ships may lie safely there from the "insults of the enemy." You have done well in sending for those "two back," being according to directions I lately sent you. "Count Briançon" says he has yet no orders concerning the "arms I" mentioned to you lately; but he believes "his master" will be willing to pay for them "out of the next subsidies. This goes by "Count Briançon's way." I am always, with truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful and most obedient servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 24th November, 1704, S.V.

Sir,

Her Majesty has taken a resolution of sending "two "more" of her "frigates to Villa-Franca," whereof the "Tar-"tar" is one, and the other is to be sent "by Sir Jno. Leake," out of "his squadron," and does not doubt but "the States-"General" will send thither "two" of theirs to join them;

and both "Mr. Stanhope" and "Sir David Mitchell" have directions to press them to it. Her Majesty's "four frigates" are to be under "your direction; but any service that is to be executed by them is to be attempted, if found practicable in the opinion of "a council of war," and though they are under "your direction," yet care is taken by the "Commis-"sioners" for "victualling the navy," that credit [is given them] for supplying them with "provisions" upon any occasion. Her Majesty has thought fit to recall Sir Lambert Blackwell, from Florence, and has appointed Dr. Newton, of Doctors' Commons, to supply his place. Her Majesty has likewise resolved to recall Mr. Aglionby from Switzerland; but there is no time yet fixed for his return. I am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 1st December, 1704.

Sir,

I received together, on the 27th past, the favour of yours of 6th, and 12th of the same, N. S. I have already acquainted you in mine of 24th past, that not only "the Lyme "and Mary-Gally" were to be under your direction; but that her Majesty had taken a resolution of sending "two "more" of her "frigates to Villa-Franca," whereof the "Tartar" is one, and the other is to be sent "by Sir John "Leake" out of "his squadron," and does not doubt but "the "states" will send thither "two" of theirs to join them, and both "Mr. Stanhope," and "Sir David Mitchell" have directions to press them to it. Her Majesty's "four frigates" are to be under "your direction;" but any service that is to be executed by them is to be attempted, if found practicable in the opinion of "a council of war."

The letters of credence I have sent you are only for Venice, and not for Florence; to this last place her Majesty is sending Dr. Newton, of Doctors' Commons, her Envoy, in the room of Sir Lambert Blackwell who is lately recalled.

I think you need not trouble yourself about the additional article to the treaty of the grand alliance, concerning the pre-

tended Prince of Wales, Monsieur de Briançon having assured me that his master consents to it as a part of that treaty, without any difficulty; so that you will have nothing to do but to offer it to be signed.

The character you give me of the Marquis de Mouchi will make me think no more of him, nor of his proposal.

The Queen will, I believe, make reprisals upon any Irishmen in the enemy's service, that shall fall into her hands, for the Frenchmen that had his Royal Highness's commission, who were lately executed at Nismes, which you may declare, as occasion may be. I am, with great truth,

Sir,

Your most humble and obedient servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 8th December, 1704.

Sir,

I have received the favour of yours of $\frac{8}{19}$th past: whether the article sent from hence, relating to the pretended Prince of Wales, to be added to the treaty with the Duke of Savoy, or that you had drawn and sent to the Duke before this came to your hands, does take place, is not much matter, provided what we design by it be effectually done. The Duke's Envoy in Holland has presented a memorial for ammunition to be sent to his master from hence, which is transmitted hither by the Duke of Marlborough, and, his Grace representing that the States will supply to her Majesty's troops in Holland, the like quantity as may be sent from hence, it is left to the Savoy-minister's choice to take it from hence, or from Holland; but if the States send "two of their "frigates to Villa-Franca" it will be more convenient "to "put the ammunition on board the ships in Holland." So that it is at their election to take it in which place they please, and thus the Duke of Savoy is not like to be disappointed of that supply. I am, with great truth,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From the Archbishop of Canterbury to Mr. Hill.

December 11th, 1704.

Sir,

I am obliged to you for a late letter, which mentions a former from Francfort; of that I never heard any thing further. As to the subject of the letter I received, I never was well acquainted with that branch of the Royal Charity; and, therefore, I consulted the Bishop of Worcester, who has managed it, and Sir John Chardin, who took care of the returns; and I have here enclosed their opinion.[1]

I had written sooner if I could have gotten together a quorum of the commissioners for the brief for the Vaudois, hoping I might have given you an account of some money from the remainder of the brief agreed to have been sent to you. But I have not been able, for these six weeks last past, to effect it, but hope still it may be done. In me nothing shall be wanting. I am with hearty respect,

Sir,

Your affectionate friend,

To Mr. Hill. CANTERBURY.[2]

Opinion of Sir J. Chardin, and the Bishop of Worcester, respecting the Royal Pension to Vaudois-Ministers, &c.

The pension was given by our late Gracious Queen Mary, and continued by King William after her death, for thirteen Ministers, and as many Schoolmasters, Vaudois, then in the valleys of Piemont, south of the river Cluson, whereof part were of the Duke of Savoy's subjects that lived in those Valleys before that bloody persecution in the year 1686: others were of those Vaudois that lived in the Valleys north of the river Cluson, in the King of France's dominion till they were forced to fly rather than forsake their religion. Both these were originally of the same ancient Valdenses: and both then being driven out of their Valleys took the opportunity of returning upon the breach between the King of France and the Duke of Savoy; and, thereupon, the edict

[1] This opinion of the Bishop of Worcester, and Sir John Chardin, is printed immediately after this letter.

[2] Dr. Thomas Tenison, Archbishop of Canterbury.

of the Duke of Savoy giving them leave to inhabit in those Valleys of his dominion. Afterwards, when the Duke, by his treaty with the King of France, was obliged to banish all those Vaudois that had been formerly subjects of the crown of France, so that they were obliged to seek a place of retirement, and found it in those parts of Germany where now they are, his late Majesty, being pleased to continue the pension as formerly by Sir John Chardin, with the advice of the Lord Almoner, they, knowing that of the thirteen Ministers and Schoolmasters, there were seven now in Germany, and six in the Valleys of Piemont, sent seven parts to those in Germany, and six to those in Piemont, of which distribution they thought none had reason to complain.

And the late Lord Almoner, now Bishop of Worcester, and Sir John Chardin, are still of opinion, that since her now Majesty is graciously pleased to revive the said pension, it may very well be distributed in the same proportion, unless her Majesty shall be pleased to order it otherwise, or those whom she is pleased to intrust with that business.

1704. Dec. 1st.

CHARDIN.[1] W. WORCESTER.[2]

From the Archbishop of Canterbury to Mr. Hill.

December 19th, 1704.

Sir,

This week I procured a meeting of a quorum of commissioners for the Vaudois-brief, after a vain attempt for many weeks before. We found a remainder in the————[3] of London undisposed of. We ordered £400 to be sent you for the use of the Vaudois and French refugees now in the service of the Duke of Savoy in the common cause. It will be remitted to you immediately by the means of Sir J. Houblon, Sir H. Furnese, or some other person whom Sir J. Houblon is doing his best to find out, if Sir H. Furnese cannot do it. This is but a little drop; but I hope it will

[1] Sir John Chardin, author of Travels into Persia and the East Indies.

[2] Dr. William Lloyd, one of the seven Bishops sent to the Tower in 1688, for addressing King James II against the declaration for liberty of conscience.

[3] It is difficult to decipher the word here omitted. In Mr. Chetwynd's copy of it, it is written *Chamberlain*.

in some sort refresh those poor people. I am, with all my heart,

Your friend,

To Mr. Hill. CANTERURY.[1]

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 22nd December, 1704.

Sir,

I have the favour of yours of $\frac{15}{26}$th past, and 3rd inst., N. S., which have been laid before the Queen at a Committe, the Duke of Marlborough being present. It was observed, that the news of the Duke's success in his negotiations at Berlin, and of the other measures taken for the Duke of Savoy's assistance, were not then reached Turin. "Count de "Briançon" has communicated to me the same that you write concerning "the letter from Vendôme to the Marquis "de St. Thomas," and the "answer to it." The turn therein given is very good, and "her Majesty is well satisfied with "his the Dukes firmness" to the interest of the Confederates, and I hope he will find the good effects of it. Her Majesty is now sending "a minister of quality to Vienna" who is to join with another from the States-General, to try, if possible, to awaken that court, and quicken "the Emperor" to hasten what he ought to send "to the Duke of Savoy," and to make an end with "the Hungarians" this winter, and, at the same time, to let the "Hungarians" know, that if they do not accept of reasonable terms, and that if the continuance of the disorders, and the fault of not "accommodation" lies at their doors, they must be answerable for all the ill consequences of it.

The Archbishop of Canterbury[1] has given you an account of a small sum designed "for the Camisars," and I can now acquaint you, that proposals are gone to "the States-General" for their concurrence in giving "those poor people" some further relief and assistance "by remittances of money, her "Majesty being resolved" to contribute "two thirds of what "the States-General" shall think requisite "for them" at this juncture. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

[1] Archbishop Tenison.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

January 5th, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I have the favour of yours of the 10th of December. The long uncertainty of the fate of Verrue, and the consequences which depend upon it, kept me some time in suspence, [so] that I did not well know what to write to you.

The safety, as one may now call it, of Gibraltar, and the march of the 8000 Prussian troops, &c., procured you by the Duke of Marlborough's treaty, gives us a very fair prospect of your making a better figure in Piedmont than you did in the last year; and I am now in great hopes the Duke of Savoy will soon be in a condition to act offensively.

The progress of the supplies for this next year is so far advanced in our Parliament, as that you need not doubt the regularity of your future payments. I am always, with great truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 5th January, 1705.

Sir,

I have received the favour of yours of the 10th past, wherein you tell me all my letters, except that of 19th September, are come to hand; though I do not find you have yet acknowledged those which covered your credentials for the State of Venice. As for that of the 19th, it is not worth sending you a copy of, since it only related to the article concerning the Prince of Wales, which I understand is agreed; whatever else was in the letter only gave you an account of the public news at that time. I have not yours of 19th August, 8th of October, and 3rd December, but all the rest, which you mention to the 10th December inclusive, are come to my hands. Since, as you say, our Red-coats are of so great terror to our enemies, we hope to have next year enough of them to frighten them in good earnest, her Majesty designing

to have a body of 5000, and the States 3000 of them, more than were employed last year. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 12th January, 1705.

Sir,

Since my last to you, which was of the 5th inst., I have none of yours to acknowledge, nor any thing to acquaint you with, but that your separate article relating to the pretended Prince of Wales is come to hand, and will be speedily ratified by her Majesty, and then put into the hands of the Count de Briançon. I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 19th January, 170$\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I have received the favour of yours of the $\frac{6}{17}$th past, from Turin, and of $\frac{13}{24}$th from Crescentin. I cannot think it for "his Royal Highness's service" to insist upon having "Irish troops." It is a matter which has often been considered, and the objections against it, which I have already given you an account of, have been still more strongly urged from time to time, and, therefore, it seems most advisable that "he" should turn his thoughts another way. I have no orders to acquaint you with it, but private intimations are given, that "the Venetians" are in a better disposition towards "the Confederates" than "they" have been formerly, and you may consult with "his Royal Highness," what is best to be done in relation to your "going" thither. I agree with you that "the French" will not have "a royal fleet out;" but it is apparent, by the advices we have, that "they" are endeavouring early "to be superior to the force we have in

"those seas;" and I desire you will inform yourself of the "preparations they are making" there, and give us all the notice of them that you can. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 26th January, 170$\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I have received the favour of yours of 29th past, and 4th inst., N. S., which came in together the 22nd inst. The letters of the 23rd, and 27th October, having, as you [say], fallen into the enemy's hands, I send you herewith a copy of mine of 27th of that month, which they will not be much the wiser for, it being in cipher, and I writ you none the 23rd. We are glad to find that "his Royal Highness" has altered his opinion upon the subject of the "Irish troops," and congratulate his happy success in the "great sally at Verrue." You are to concert with the "Duke of Savoy," concerning your "going to Venice," and I have no new orders to send you on that subject. The "fusils and bayonets" you mention are not to be had from hence, and "Count Briançon" has had notice of it some time since. Her Majesty approves of the order you have given the "Lyme and Mary-Galley." "Villa-"Franca" being so good "a port" as you describe it to be, if the "French" are forming a design against it, as our advices "from France" do intimate, it is a pity "guns" should not be "mounted upon the platform" as you have proposed. "We are in pain" upon the news of this "design," not knowing how "to send relief thither" in time, and it being of too great consequence to give any orders without "more" certain advice upon what account the squadron at Toulon is fitting out with so much diligence. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Mr. W. Lowndes to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 2nd February, 1705.

Sir,

I acknowledge the favour of yours of the 10th past, S.N., and having communicated the contents thereof to my

Lord Treasurer, his Lordship commands me to signify to you, that he approves of your remitting the value of the £9280 money of Piedmont, for the 500 fire-locks, and 500 bayonets, and 20 halberts, sent by the board of Ordnance to Turin, and by you delivered (pursuant to an order from Mr. Secretary Hedges) for the use of the Duke of Savoy, in the manner you have proposed, to wit, by a bill ef exchange upon a merchant in London, payable to Charles Bertie Esqre for the use of her Majesty's office of Ordnance. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. WM. LOWNDES.

From the Duke of Marlborough to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 6th February, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I am very much obliged to you for the constant advices you give me, and particularly for your two long ciphers of the 4th and 14th January. You cannot say more to us of the supine negligence of the court of Vienna, with reference to your affairs, than we are sensible of every where else; and certainly if the Duke of Savoy's good conduct and bravery at Verrue had not reduced the French to a very low ebb, the game must have been over before any help could come to you; but now that the treaty I concluded at Berlin is ratified, both by the Emperor and the States, I hope, by the next letters, to hear that the Prussian troops, with the other succours, are marching to your relief. I am assured likewise that Prince Eugene will set out before the end of this month, so that we may hope soon to hear that your drooping spirits are revived again. At least we expect here, that upon the Prince's arrival, he will be able to act on the offensive, and make such an immediate diversion, that his Royal Highness will have elbow-room enough. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. MARLBOROUGH.

P. S. I pray you will take all opportunities of making my compliments in the best manner to his Royal Highness.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 9th February, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I received, on the 6th inst., the favour of yours of $\frac{3\,rd}{14th}$

past, from Turin, which has been laid before her Majesty. The courage, constancy, and resolution of the Duke of Savoy, shewn particularly in the defence of Verrue, has raised a very great opinion of his Highness's value here, and had a great influence over the House of Commons, when they came to an unanimous resolution of making an address to thank the Queen for concluding the treaty with the King of Prussia for troops to assist the Duke of Savoy, which address, and the Queen's answer, will be sent you from this office. It is looked upon as a good piece of service done by you in reducing the duties upon English cloth in Savoy, which you say were formerly higher than those upon French cloth, and his Royal Highness, by making the new tariff in our favour, has done a thing very acceptable to us here, wherein I believe he will find his account, in the inclinations of the nation to come into all things that may be for his advantage; but I desire you will please to explain the matter a little farther, and let us know what the duties were upon English cloth, what upon French cloth, and to what proportion the former are now reduced.

It is a considerable remark you make of the advantages the French get by sending our deserters and prisoners into Italy, and upon the Maese, or Moselle, which I have acquainted the Duke of Marlborough with, and his Grace will endeavour to remedy it. You know it is not in our power here to hinder the printing of such papers as the speech you mention, supposed to be made in Parliament by the Lord Haversham, and you will endeavour to prevent any ill effects it may have in those parts. I hope the occasion of "his Royal Highness's "complaint," in relation to the "signing his treaty at the "Hague," and the "ratifying it by King Charles the third," is, or will soon be removed. You will have a letter sent you from the "Duke of Marlborough to Prince Eugene," which is thought properer than one "from the Queen," and it shall be put as you desire under the "Consul of Venice's cover." The Gentleman you mean is at the Hague, or, at least, was sometime since, from whence he writ me a letter concerning his project, and, perhaps, he might have a design of coming hither, but that I told him, in plain terms, it was not necessary he should take that journey; but that when her Majesty had notice from the States themselves what measures they thought fit to take in that matter, she should be ready to concur with

them, and I understand that the Duke of Marlborough had told him the same when he was at the Hague. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 13th February, 170$\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

Since my last to you, which was of the 9th inst., I have received the favour of yours of $\frac{10th}{21st}$ past. I told you in my last what a spirit was raised here by the courage and conduct of the Duke of Savoy generally to favour his proceedings, and I can tell you now from what my Lord Raby writes from Berlin, that the Prince of Anhalt, who commands the King of Prussia's troops in Bavaria, [is] designed for his Royal Highness's assistance, who received orders to proceed on his march thither with all the expedition that may be. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Mr. J. Tucker to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 20th February, 170$\frac{4}{5}$.

Dear Sir,

I am in your debt for the favour of yours of the 3rd of the last month; which found me in a violent fever and fit of the gout in my bed, which, I thank God, I am perfectly well recovered of, except of my strength, which I am afraid will yet cost me a month at least, or perhaps two, to regain. I have just been deciphering yours to Mr. Secretary which came to day. It is a million of pities that gallant Prince, the Duke of Savoy, should be so distressed. I hope he will now be relieved by Prince Eugene, who we hear has very earnestly pressed the march of the Imperial and Prussian troops. I pray God they may arrive in time to save the rest of his Royal Highness's countries from being farther insulted.

We are here drawing towards a conclusion of the Session of Parliament. We think this day se'nnight may put an end to it, and the being of the present Parliament. There are like to be very great strugglings for the next, which, it is believed, will be chosen in a little time after the dissolution of this.

Your wish has been very effectually answered, viz., that I might be ill enough of the gout to keep me from going to the Court of Request: but had I not had that to do it, I do assure you my own disposition had done it. I do not know that since the Queen came to the crown, that I have been there three times, except when I could not avoid it. When I had nothing else to do, I did use to go; but, upon my word, there are now so many mad men, knaves, and spies, (not to mention fools), that Bedlam, Newgate, and that place, shall, for the future, be the three last places that I will make it my choice to go to; however, the hint is kind, and I thank you for it.

We are in expectation of great alterations in the ministry when the Parliament is up; but what they will be I cannot guess. I am, with true esteem, and respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. J. TUCKER.

From Sir G. Rooke to Mr. Hill.

St. Lawrence, February the 22nd, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Dear Sir,

I received the honour of your letter of the $\frac{7}{18}$th of October, about six weeks since; in all which time I have been so very ill of the gout, that I have not been able to write I am very sorry to find by yours, that several of my letters have miscarried, which will hinder me from writing so much in this as I could wish you knew. I will only tell you that my services of the last year have been so ill received by some, and so ill rewarded by others, that I could no longer forbear gratifying my inclinations to quit the command of the fleet, to which my long indisposition gave me a fair pretence, though I should be very sorry not to be able to give better reasons to my friends.

It was very apparent that my enemies, upon any misfortune, would be sure to persecute and condemn me, and as plain that my friends would not support or protect me; so that I thought fit, though with some reluctance, to quit the honour of meeting Monsieur Thoulouse this summer to those

who may hope to obtain some justice in consideration of their service. The House of Lords have been, by a private Committee, the Duke of Bolton in the chair, all this session upon the cold hunt to discover miscarriages in the fleet the last summer, and not being able to find any faults, they have thought fit to say nothing, so that where I cannot be marked with a public censure, I must not expect to be justified.

Gibraltar has been shamefully neglected, as if it was to be lost, because I had the honour to take it; but whenever that happens it will be a French port and garrison, and a thorn in the side of England, and Holland, and all the trading world, so long as the sun and moon endure.

I am very happy in my retirement, and, if I can, I will as soon as possible, acquit myself of my attendance at Court and Parliament. I shall be perfectly at leisure and liberty to obey your summons at the little village, where you proposed we might enjoy our quiet, which I believe Scotland won't long do, in England.

I shall give you no further trouble at present, but my service to Mr. Chetwynd and the other gentlemen with you, and the assurance that I am, with a most sincere respect, esteem, and friendship,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. Rooke.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 23rd February, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I find by yours, of the $\frac{17}{28}$th past, which came to hand the 20th inst., that my letters are a long time finding their way to you, my 1st of December being the last you acknowledge. The two frigates were detached by Sir John Leake, at Lisbon, and it was not possible to "send the powder and "arms" by them; all that could be done was to "send the "powder, saltpetre, and lead to Lisbon" by the first convoy, which passed by Plymouth with a fair wind the 19th inst., for Lisbon, and care is taken to forward it from thence by the first convenience. "The arms," I believe, are still in Holland, from whence they are to be "furnished," there being

none to be "spared" here, as appears by a late account given by "the Officers of ordnance." I am afraid "Prince Eugene" will not be able to get into Italy so soon as you expected; but our last letters give hopes that he will not be long before he "marches." Our letters, come in to day, tell us "the "Prussians" are on their march, "the Palatines" are following, "and the Danes" will not be long behind. It is a pity so brave a Prince, as his Royal Highness, has not been better supported on that side. If he can hold a little longer we are persuaded all will do well; if it had been possible for England to have done more, his Royal Highness had not been put to this extremity. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir L. Blackwell to Mr. Hill.

Livorno, 25th February, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I came hither on Thursday, and on Saturday the Prince sent Baron del Nero with his Highness's coaches, and a very handsome equipage, to carry me to the Palace, where I have been lodged and treated very magnificently ever since, and ended the Carnival there, for I returned to my own apartment, only last night, entirely well satisfied with the honours done, as per particulars enclosed. I shall now pass a few days here, and then proceed for Genoa. I have informed myself about the price of Corn, and find about ten thousand sacks of that which comes from the Archipelago may be had at ten livres and half, this money, per sack; I say $10\frac{1}{2}$ livres per sack, (six livres making a Dollar;) and ten thousand sacks of Corn of the Maremma, may be had at eleven livres per sack, or thereabouts, but these are the prices for ready money, with one per cent discount.

I am now to return my humble thanks for yours of the 11th current, wherein you desire to know, how the ministers of the Emperor are treated at Florence, to which I reply, that they are treated exactly in the same manner, neither more nor less than the ministers from other crowned heads, and I have had [the] same treatment which Count Castel Bario (Envoy Extraordinary from the Emperor) had about three years since.

I have a fresh letter from Prince Eugene from Vienna, and he writes me that he designs being very soon in Italy.

I hope to meet your commands at Genoa, and to have many occasions of declaring myself as I am to the last degree of respect,

Sir,

Your obedient, obliged, and most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. L. BLACKWELL.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

March 2nd, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I give you many thanks for your favour of the 30th January, which was so hearty, that I could not but be much pleased with it, though I have since seen yours of the 4th and 11th February to Mr. Secretary Hedges, by which I find you have been much pressed since that time. The German succours have been unmercifully slow; but our last letters from Berlin and Vienna give assurance they were in full march towards you, which makes me not yet despair of the Duke of Savoy's being superior in Italy this spring. If that should, at last, be the case, will you give me leave to ask you, what use you would make of that superiority? I can easily imagine you will answer me very naturally, we will endeavour to beat the French out of Italy. But may it not be the most effectual way of doing that, to give them work at home? and a much less force than will be requisite to beat them into France, will oblige them to return thither to look after it, since there is not a province in France less inclined to revolt than the Cevennois, if they had as strong mountains to shelter them. This is a reflection that must needs be offering to you: however, I could not forbear hinting it to you in hopes you may be so lucky as to have occasion to make use of it before the summer passes. If one could carry 5 or 600 men with a wish into the south parts of France they might make foul work. I ask your pardon, and am always yours, &c.

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 2nd March, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I am now to acquaint you that for disposing "the "people of Catalonia to a revolt, and for concerting measures "with the chief of them to settle our King on the throne, "her Majesty has thought fit to despatch Mr. Mitford Crowe, "who is well acquainted with the Catalans, to reside at Ge- "noa, without a character, and, for colour only, has given him "a credential to that state, and instructions to make proposi- "tions for the mutual advantage of trade, and this juncture "seeming favourable and proper for setting such a negotiation "on foot, by reason of the misunderstanding there seems to "be at present with the Duke of Florence, Mr. Crowe's "principal business will be the less liable to give jealousy, "and, perhaps, it may also do us some service in adjusting "with the great Duke. This design is communicated to "very few, and to none but where it is absolutely necessary; "among whom you are reckoned. He has an instruction to "despatch one of the four frigates, upon any emergent occa- "sion, to Lisbon, Gibraltar, the fleet, or General of the land- "forces, and since they are all under your direction it is her "Majesty's pleasure, that upon any notice from Mr. Crowe, "you immediately despatch such of the frigates as can soon- "est be had, and put her under Mr. Crowe's orders for such "of the purposes aforesaid, as he shall judge requisite for "her Majesty's service, and for carrying on this great design, "the intention being chiefly for him to give an account from "time to time to the Earl of Galway, the Prince of Hesse, "or the fleet, how the Catalans are disposed, and what assis- "tances may be expected on their side, if the fleet should go "so far as Barcelona; or how the Catalans may best co-oper- "ate in conjunction, or in what manner be employed by "way of diversion to the best advantage, all which is neces- "sary to be concerted as soon, and with as much secrecy, as possible." I have received the favour of yours, of 28th past, 7th, and 11th inst., N. S., but have nothing to send you in answer to them, nor to add to this, but the assurances of my being, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. Hedges.

From Mr. Edward Southwell to Mr. Hill.

Dublin, 3rd March, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Dear Sir,

I had the favour of yours of the 3rd January, and made your compliments to his Grace[1] who returns them very heartily, and says you are a letter in his debt. We are now fully employed with our Parliament here. The main point was to get them to continue the additional revenues on ale and tobacco, which expire at Michaelmas next, for two years longer from that time, and I hope we shall soon effect it: for we had a trying division, for 2 years against one, 142 to 67: so I hope matters will go successfully on. And then I believe we shall think of a little English air in summer; it is that we all desire and breathe after, and notwithstanding all the plenty of eatables of this country, which in truth is very great, we are in a needy condition as to getting in rents or receiving any money.

I here enclose you an answer from Sir Francis Hamilton to the letter enclosed. This gentleman is a man of very good character here, one of our members of Parliament, and his Grace lately made him a Captain of horse in his own regiment.

As for news we can only tell you what is our part in the present campaign. We are sending 3 regiments on board the fleet, viz. Lord Charlemonts, Gorge's and Pierce's, about a month hence. We shall sooner send 1400 dragoon horses now ready with recruits to Portugal. We shall have a watchful eye on our northern parts for fear of Scotland, who are arming all their fencible men.

We drink his Royal Highness's health every day; we extol his great and noble defence of Verrue, and wish him succours due to such zeal for the common cause.

As to your friend Monsieur St. Hippolyte, you may let him know that all his clearings of his pension are paid to Midsummer last, and, for particular favour, the two-thirds thereof for subsistence to the first of last month. Dr. Ash, Bishop of Clogher, and Dr. Smith, Bishop of Down, do both return you thanks for your kind remembrance, and are both in town, in good health. I am very truly,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

EDWARD SOUTHWELL.[2]

To Mr. Hill.

[1] The Duke of Ormond.

[2] Principal Secretary of State in Ireland.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 9th March, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I have received the favour of yours of $\frac{7}{18}$th past, which gives an account of the siege of Verrue extremely to the advantage of the Duke of Savoy, which creates in us a wonderful good opinion of him for his bravery and conduct. You may be sure he has our best wishes, that he [may] maintain the place till the succours arrive, and then we have hopes, that the success will be entirely on his side. This letter has nothing in it that requires any directions, and, therefore, I should hardly have troubled you to night, but to desire [you], if you go to Venice, to give all the assistance you can to Mr. Godolphin, my Lord Treasurer's brother, in a case, he and others, the heirs of Sir Wm. Godolphin, have had a long time depending in the Courts of Judicature there for a very considerable sum of money. The progress of which process, and the state it is now in, he intends to give you an account of himself, by a letter which he has promised to send to me to enclose to you.

This evening a mail came in from Lisbon, which gives an account, that on the 15th past, O. S., there came into the Bay of Gibraltar a French squadron of 18 sail, 14 of them large ships; upon notice whereof at Lisbon the squadron there was getting ready with all possible speed to put to sea, consisting of 14 English, 4 Dutch, and 6 Portuguese men-of-war, all of-the-line, and what privateers could be got ready, and were to have an English and Dutch battalion, and a 1000 Portuguese on board. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. Hedges.

From Mr. C. Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

London, 9th March, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

If the public affairs under your care in the Court of Savoy should succeed so well by the application already given them, or that you are permitted for the Queen's service to pursue the other commission which I have heard (though but very lately) you are furnished with to the Republic of Venice; I must pray to be under your protection for an affair I have

depending in the Judicatures there. The papers relating to it are all in the hands of Mr. Williams, a known English merchant there, who has brought the cause to a hearing in the Avogaria, from whence, after a 4 days' solemn argument on our behalf, it was carried in to the Quarentia. That which we shall chiefly want is the countenance of your character to prevent any surprise upon us by artificial proceedings, and through our not being informed where the adversaries lay the weight of their cause, having not pleaded at all in the other Court; and that the judgment in this will be final without other appeal, I am the more ready to ask your favour herein, in case you should happen to be at Venice at the time of this audience, (which we expect soon after Easter) as being not able to charge myself with having done any thing to make me forfeit the title you have always been pleased to allow me to your friendly offices, who am, with respect,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. GODOLPHIN.

From the Duke of Marlborough to Mr. Hill.

St. James's, 16th March, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I have not had any from you since my last; but yesterday received one from Monsieur Belcastel, of the 23rd February, which gave us some hopes of Verrue's holding out till the succours from Germany could come to your assistance; though, by the letters of this post from Paris, we find that the communication was cut off, and your bridge destroyed the 1st inst., so that now we give the place over for lost. We suppose Prince Eugene is hastening apace towards you, and hope his presence, with the troops he brings, may put a stop to the enemy's farther progress. I tell him you will endeavour to see him, and deliver him the enclosed as soon as he comes within reach. I hope he will be in a better condition to act than the French after this ruinous siege. I shall be going for Holland, with the first fair wind, and will be sure to give you an account from thence of our motions. You will please to take all opportunities of making my compliments to his Royal Highness, and to believe me, truly, &c.

To Mr. Hill. MARLBOROUGH.

From Mr. A. Cardonnel to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, the 16th March, 1705.

Sir,

I have not had the honour of any from you for some time, and now send this to accompany one from my Lord Duke, who I find is yet uncertain where he shall make this campaign. The French seem to bend all their strength towards Flanders, and the States are very solicitous that his Grace should command there, but his inclinations are for the Moselle as what may probably tend most to the advantage of the public; but this will chiefly depend on the strength the Germans will be able to bring into the field to second his Grace's designs: no resolution will be taken till we come into Holland, which will not be these eight or ten days, for we shall hardly be able to embark till towards the end of the next week.

You will hear by this post, I believe, [of] the sudden death of my Lord Dalkeith, who is very much regretted.

Our Parliament was prorogued on Wednesday, and now I am apt to think we shall see many alterations: among others, it is said Mr. Bruges, of the Admiralty, will be our pay-master in the room of Mr. Fox. I am, ever,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful and most obedient servant,

To Mr. Hill. A. CARDONNEL.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 16th March, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I have received the favour of yours of $\frac{14}{25}$th past, in which you give us some hopes that Verrue would be able to hold out some time longer; but the news we have of the taking, by force, the fort which covered the bridge, makes us apprehend something worse may follow, and that we ought to condole with you for the condition the Duke of Savoy seems to be in. We wish we were nearer at hand to help him; but, however, we shall continue to do for him all that possibly we can. I believe I have received all the letters you

mention, though, perhaps, you may not yet know it, because we cannot have answers from one another under two months' time, or thereabouts; your last of 14th February, O. S., arriving here the 14th inst., which was just a month. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 23rd March, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I received, on the 16th inst., the favour of yours of 4th N. S., upon which I have no directions to send you; but am to acquaint you with her Majesty's intentions of opening speedily a trade with Spain, which may best be done at first by neutral ships, as Venetians, or Genoese, &c., and, therefore, your honesty and modesty in regard to them will be very seasonable for that reason, because we should rather give countenance to such as are willing to come to our assistance in this point, than any ways discourage them.

We are in some pain for our Frigates, since we have heard the French were with a squadron on that coast. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

26th March, 1705.

Sir,

This is chiefly to tell you I shall agree with Sir Theo. Janssen to morrow for the remittances to Savoy, I believe for six months, and in that case, if the Duke of Savoy's distress should make it at any time convenient to him to take up the one payment beforehand, by way of advance, Sir Theodore tells me his correspondents at Turin will be willing to help him in any exigency, as far as that goes. I wish very heartily this letter may find you all alive, and in circumstances to give attention to what Mr. Secretary Hedges writes to you by this post. I hope there is no reason to doubt, but we shall be able to do our part, upon timely notice from you; and I am, also, in hope that his Royal Highness is too penetrating not to see his own interest very plainly in this thing. If you are superior, you ought to do it, because it is the best and the greatest thing you can do, and if you are at liberty enough for it, though you are not superior, you ought to at-

tempt it; because it is the readiest and the surest way to make you so.

Here then lies all our hope, if the German succours will yet reach you after all the time you have given them for it; but I must own the manège of the Court of Vienna as intolerable as the Duke of Savoy's behaviour has been admirable and excellent.

The Duke of Marlborough is gone to Harwich to embark there for Holland. The French brag much of being early in the field; but I hope we shall not be much behindhand with them.

We are not yet out of pain for Gibraltar; if that place remains in our hands at this hour, we may possibly have a hit for a lucky summer in that part of the world. I am ever, with great truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 27th March, 1705.

Sir,

"The Duke of Savoy having made overtures by the "Count de Briançon for attempting Toulon with his troops "in conjunction with her Majesty's forces that accompany "the fleet, her Majesty would have you inform yourself as "exactly as you can, how far his Royal Highness may be "able to co-operate in such a design, what number of horse "and foot, and what provision proper for such an attempt he "can furnish, and at what time; for great attention will be "given to the proposal, if it be found practicable, it being a "service of the greatest importance to England. It is rea-"sonable to believe his Royal Highness will be very glad to "have the English fleet so near him in his great distress: but "it is fit to be well informed what assistance may be depend-"ed upon from his Royal Highness, and what success may be "expected from such an enterprise so far from home, and so "hazardous. The proper measures are to be concerted with "the Duke of Savoy, and [every] possible secrecy is necessary "for the carrying on this design. Your cipher is given to "Sir Cloudesley Shovel with whom you are to correspond, "and give him the earliest and best advices you can for his

"better governance, in which her Majesty relies on your "care." I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 3rd April, S.V., 1705.

Sir,

I have received the favour of yours of 11th past, N.S., which has been laid before the Queen; but I have not yet any directions to send you upon it.

I sent you one on the 27th past, all in cipher, a duplicate whereof goes herewith, lest any accident should have happened to the former, because it contains matter of great importance. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 10th April, S. V., 1705.

Sir,

I have received yours of $\frac{7}{18}$th, $\frac{14}{25}$th past, and am glad to find that the Duke of Savoy continues still so vigorous, and that the Queen's frigates have done so good service, and are escaped. They will certainly do his Royal Highness ten times the advantage afloat as the guns and ammunition could do him were they put into the town, of which you have one good instance already by their taking the prize with powder, pike-axes, &c., which has happened very seasonably: they will be of use in interrupting the French transports, and molesting the galleys, so long as you maintain your superiority in those seas, which we hope will be long, since Sir John Leake is become so powerful, and that, according to some advices, he is expected in those parts, and that for fear of him the French will hardly adventure to come out. Count Briançon has seconded what you mention about burning the two frigates; but we are sensible they will do his Royal Highness much better service at sea: besides who shall answer for burning the Queen's frigates as long as they can swim, and you will want them to carry and bring intelligence when our fleet is come into those seas, which it is in a good forwardness to do. Count Briançon has also desired, that

Sir John Leake may have orders to succour Villa-Franca. You may assure his Royal Highness, that that service is very much in her Majesty's thoughts, and that care will be taken of it, as far as it is practicable, and can be done with safety. You are to take an opportunity to explain to his Royal Highness of how dangerous a consequence it may be to the whole confederacy to run any hazard with Leake's squadron, by venturing to go so far up the Mediterranean, and thereby give an opportunity to the Brest and Toulon squadrons to join, and put themselves in a posture to hinder the junction of Shovel and Leake, and, by that means, prevent the best service that is projected for the next campaign. This you may make use of upon occasion to satisfy his Royal Highness, in case Sir J. Leake should not go so far up. You will have heard of the French chicane about the exchange of prisoners between them and the Duke of Savoy. The Duke of Marlborough, before he went, had particular instructions to take care of this matter. Count Briançon, since his Grace's departure, has given in a memorial on that subject, which was sent the last week to the Duke of Marlborough. The said Count has to day made pressing instances about that affair, and Mr. Secretary Harley has orders to write to night to his Grace to interpose with the States to stop the exchange of prisoners unless the French will comply in that point; so that all is done on this side that possibly can be in favour of the Duke of Savoy. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Prince Eugene to Mr. Hill.

'A Vienne, 11e Avril, 1705.

Monsieur,

J'ai eu un sensible plaisir en recevant vos lignes du 26e Mars dernier, puisque par ce moyen j'ai trouvé l'occasion, que j'avois souhaité, d'en pouvoir venir avec vous en connoissance, et de recevoir d'avantage l'honneur de votre correspondence. Or, comme je suis à la veille de partir pour l'Italie, je vous dirai, Monsieur, ma pensée à l'égard de la commission, que vous avez de Sa Majesté, la Reine, votre Maîtresse, et je crois qu'il seroit mieux de rien entreprendre là dessus, jusque je serai arrivé en Italie, et qu' encore les troupes du secours y pourroient être ensemble. Je ne manquerai pas

de vous avertir incessamment, quand je me trouverai aux frontières, et puis nous concerterons, de plus prêt, la manière qu'on pourroit tenir dans l'affaire, dont l'intention de Sa Majesté, la Reine, est autant louable qu' utile pour la cause commune. En attendant je vous prie, Monsieur, d'être persuadé que je suis, &c,

A Monsieur Hill. EUGENE DE SAVOYE.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 17th April, 1705.

Sir,

You have done very well in assuring his Royal Highness, that her Majesty, or any who have the honour to serve her, have not the least attention towards any such negotiations as you mention, and that, whenever any treaties shall be set on foot, her Majesty cannot be unmindful of his Royal Highness's interest, who has done and suffered so much for the common cause; and I think Count Briançon is entirely satisfied, that her Majesty is doing, and will do, all that is in her power for his master's support and satisfaction. You will have heard the particulars of the action between Leake and Pointi before it reaches us, it being now five weeks since it happened, and yet no account from Lisbon, or the Admiral. The letters from France, Holland, and Spain say, that Leake is gone to Nissa, and I wish it were true, since all advices agree that Pointi has lost, at least, five of his best ships; but I rather believe the Admiral has met with winds that have carried him farther than he intended, and has not been able to repass the straits, for he had no orders to proceed as far as Nissa, that I know of; but I hope the grand fleet will do it. The Admiralty-ordnance, transport-officers, and victuallers, are using their utmost diligence to set the expedition afloat, and we are made believe, that all will be ready by the end of this month; at which time the Dutch, with their troops, will be at Spithead, if the wind serves, their Admiral having already taken his leave of the States. Our Admiral and General will have instructions to correspond with you, and to govern themselves in a great measure according to the advices you shall send. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Lord Ambassador Methuen to Mr. Hill.

Lisbon, April the 23rd, N. S., 1705.

Sir,

I received the honour of your letter, and I shall neglect no opportunity of writing to you by every ship that goes from hence to any port of Italy.

But the particular occasion of my writing to you at this time is, what gives me a great deal of trouble. The Count of Briançon hath shipped, for his Royal Highness the Duke of Savoy, about three thousand barrels of powder, and a good deal of lead. The two ships with the powder arrived here in March without any letters, or the least account for what purpose the powder came. Fourteen days since I received letters from Sir Charles Hedges, that the powder was for his Royal Highness, and that by your letters he understood it was so much wanted, that it would be difficult to continue the war without it, desiring me to assist a merchant of this place to get it on shore, and to send it by the safest and speediest conveyance. This merchant hath no orders at all when or how to send it, save only a letter from another merchant directing [him] to do what I should order him about such a quantity of powder.

So great a negligence in a matter which may possibly be of so great consequence I never saw; having left me in all the doubt and uncertainty; for if I send it without convoy and it be lost, that will be said not to be the safest; if I stay for convoy, that may be said not to be the speediest.

I have at last brought myself to take a resolution not to land it, but to get leave to put it on board two ships here, and earnestly desire Sir John Leake to contrive a convoy for its safety, and, if my desires take effect, you may probably have it about fifteen days after you receive this.

Our affairs here are in some confusion and unreadiness; but considering the enemy hath no army formed, and cannot, as we believe, have any considerable body of foot, my Lord Galway, with infinite diligence and difficulty, hath got our army in the field, and, I believe, they may march to morrow, either to besiege Valenza and Alcantara, or else Badajoz, according to the condition of the enemy's preparations.

Our government hath been so precarious and uncertain all this winter, by the ill health of the King, who was never well since his return from the campaign, and was at the point of

death at the beginning of January, that it hath been extremely difficult to get any thing in order, and now the Queen governs; but nothing is done without the King, who yet will do nothing, and there being no very good understanding between the King and Queen, nor their ministers, it is very hard to avoid confusion and delay in every thing. You will have heard our good success in the defence of Gibraltar, in which I have the satisfaction of having from hence done all things for maintaining and preserving that place, which want of time and many accidents hindered being done in England.

There come often ships from Genoa, or Leghorn, and I shall be very glad to hear of your health, and the success of affairs in Italy, which seems now to be either the most dangerous, or the most important part of our concern this summer, and I will not fail to give you the best account I can from hence, remaining, with great respect,

Sir,

Your most humble and most obedient servant,

To Mr Hill. Jo. Methuen.

April 28th.

P. S. The ship having been kept here by contrary winds, I can add only that our army is this day marched into Spain, to besiege Valenza, and as soon as possible to besiege Alcantara. I meet with infinite difficulty in sending the powder, but I will send it however immediately. J. M.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 27th April, 1705.

Sir,

I have none of yours to acknowledge; but I think it will be a great satisfaction, and of great use to you, to know that "her Majesty's fleet" is ready to go out, that "she" will have "in the Mediterranean fifty two ships of-the-line," which, with "eighteen of the Dutch," will make "seventy in "all," which we hope will be "a force superior to" any thing "the French" can put out. You will please to correspond with "Sir Cloudesley Shovel," and give "him" all the notices you can for her Majesty's service. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. Hedges.

From Sir L. Blackwell to Mr. Hill,

Genoa, p^mo May, 1705. N. S.

Sir,

My last, of the 26th ultimo, carried you [a] copy of this Republic's answer, and their deputies' explanation. I also acquainted you that the Englishmen were released out of their Galleys (and I sent them on board her Majesty's ship the Mary-Galley) with several other particulars, which I repeat, not concluding my letter got safe to your hands. I had a conference the day following with the deputies, who acquainted me with the ceremonies to be observed at my taking leave, as per copy herewith, and the Doge appointed my audience on Tuesday the 28th ultimo, when I delivered her Majesty's letter to his Serenity, &c. Two days since I had notice that six French men-of-war, of 45 to 70 guns, had been seen near Port Maurice, convoying a fleet of ships and barks for this place, and fearing lest they might surprise Commodore Dolman, who lay with her Majesty's four small frigates near Savona, I immediately despatched a felucca to let him know the hazard, and prayed him to give me an account of what had passed at Savona, having understood that the Castle fired at him; [the] copy of the answer he sent me, also [the] copy of what the Republic have ordered the deputies to deliver me about this affair you have enclosed, which I have shown Captain Dolman, who came safe into this port last night. The French fleet were at same time in sight, and most of the barks are since come in.

The ships are still abroad being becalmed; but enclosed you have the particulars come to my knowledge. They are commanded by Monsieur Ducane, who has sent his boat ashore, and a compliment to me to acquaint me that he has 70 English marines on board, which he will deliver to my order. I have given directions for boats to go off early in the morning to receive and carry them on board her Majesty's frigates, which will be a brave recruit for the Tartar and Newport, who very much wanted men, the other two frigates are well-manned. Yesterday, Captain Fisher, in her Majesty's ship, the Tartar, sent his boat in chase of a Genoese bark that was laden with wine, and firing at her frightened the equipage on shore. The bark fired at the Tartar's boat (pretending they took them for Turks), and it is said killed one

of Captain Fisher's men. Captain Fisher also brought into port a felucca, which his men seized as she lay at anchor at a village on this coast called Arenzano. The weather being very fair I should have departed hence this day had not the French fleet appeared; but I design to depart to morrow with one of these galleys, [so] that the next trouble I shall give you will be from Florence.

If you have heard of Captain Dolman's conduct about the letter for Vice-Admiral Leake, it will make you smile. To think that a Commodore should give such instructions to a felucca as are only proper for ships. It was Capt. Pollavicino's proposal, as Dolman tells me. It was a wise contrivance betwixt them, to send a felucca on such an expedition. The letter is at last come to my hands again, and you have it herewith.

It is full time to send those ships home, for they are much out of repair, and most of the seamen want clothing, having a great many months' pay due to them. I am ever, to the last degree of respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. L. BLACKWELL.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 4th May, 1705.

Sir,

I have none of yours to acknowledge, and write you this to acquaint you, that if it finds you at Turin, "the "Queen would not have you go from thence; because it "will be of great importance to the fleet, that you be ready "at hand to give intelligence to the Admirals, when they ar- "rive in the Mediterranean, which we hope will be shortly, "the fleet being now ready to sail." But lest you should be "departed from Turin" before this comes to hand, I have sent enclosed a letter of credence for Mr. Chetwynd, who is to supply "your place in your absence," which it is desired may be as short as is possible. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From the Duke of Marlborough to Mr Hill.

Maestricht, the 12th May, 1705.

Sir,

Two days since I received the favour of your letter, of the 15th past, and am heartily concerned to see the situation you are in. The Duke of Savoy's steadiness to the Emperor's interests has certainly deserved better usage from that Court; however, we are still in hopes the succours that are advancing under Prince Eugene may come to his relief before his Royal Highness be drove to the last extremity.

We are now hastening into the field on this side. The Dutch troops that are to compose the army of the Maese encamped yesterday All our English are likewise come into the neighbourhood of this place. On Thursday I intend to review them, and then they will continue their march towards the Moselle. In the mean while, I intend to make a step to Coblentz, thence to meet the Prince of Baden, and hasten to Treves to open the campaign, wherein I pray you will assure his Royal Highness, that I shall act with the greatest regard possible for his interest. You will please make him my compliments, at the same time, in the best manner. I shall be glad you will let me know, what convenience you shall have of sending my letters to Prince Eugene, for I would willingly not have them go by any other hand than yours. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. MARLBOROUGH.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 15th May, 1705.

Sir,

I can now assure you that the "Earl of Peterborough, "and Sir Cloudesley Shovel's despatches" are "finished," and "her Majesty's fleet" is in "so much readiness to sail," that if the "wind" hold "fair," as it is at present, I may next Tuesday give you an account of "their" being gone. The "force "consists of fifty-two of her Majesty's ships of the "line," and "eighteen of the Dutch," with "8000 soldiers" in transport-ships, "with frigates," and all attendance as usual. The first "motion" will be "to" look "into Brest," and, "if "the Brest and Rochefort ships" are still there, a "detach-"ment" will be made to look "after them," and the "rest of "the fleet," &c., will "proceed" directly to "Cascais Road,"

where so much time only will be spent as may be necessary "to adjust" the "operations," either "on this side Gibraltar, "or" in "the Mediterranean." It is concluded here that "they" will from "Cascais" go directly "to Barcelona," since "in all probability" there will be a better opportunity "for attempting Cadiz" in "their return," the "Spaniards "having garrisoned that place," with the "troops which were "before Gibraltar," and made what provision "they can for a "defence," expecting that the "storm" will first "fall there;" and of this it is necessary to inform you, that you may "take "the best measures you can" for "sending advice" to "the "fleet" of the preparations the "Duke of Savoy hath made "to co-operate with the fleet, and the Queen's forces, in the "attempt on Toulon, as also of" what "farther service may "be undertaken" for the "support and assistance of his "Royal Highness."

You have been already acquainted that "Mr. Crowe resides "at Genoa to negotiate with the Catelans," and "to adjust "with them all that is necessary to be undertaken on that "coast," which "will be attempted" according to "the reso-"lutions that shall be taken," and, so far "as they are" practicable, "be put in execution; but the design on Toulon "is the favourite project if the Duke of Savoy be in a condi-"tion to co-operate;" and it is "so near that it may be exe-"cuted" without "much loss of time," and "after that the "fleet may return to the coast of Catalonia;" for though that is "an important service," and there is, "as we are informed, a "fair prospect of success there, yet" the "first use of it" is "by colour thereof to put all in a posture for" the "attempt "on Toulon. The Count de Briançon has had a private au-"dience, and given her Majesty assurances of his master's "firm adherence" to the "interest of the allies," expressing "a due sense of her Majesty's punctual performance" of all that "she hath engaged to do" for "his assistance," and "de-"siring her" farther "support and relief," and "particularly "for recovering Nice and Villa-Franca," and "promising" to "do his utmost for attempting and destroying Toulon, and the "French ships," and "magazines" there, "in which service" he gives "good hopes of a competent body of horse," if the "Germans have any success in Italy." How far "he may "be able to comply," and "assist" in "putting" this "design "in execution you" will "best judge," and, as "you find

"matters, her Majesty would have you," from "time to time, "give the best account you can to her Admirals" of what they may "expect, and depend on, to be performed" by his "Royal Highness, as to the number of horse" and "foot" he "can furnish, and what time and place they will be ready to "join," and "in what manner" they will "co-operate."

The "Count de Briançon" was "well pleased with what "her Majesty declared at his audience," and I doubt not but "he will give his master full satisfaction," that there is nothing "will be wanting on her Majesty's part to relieve "him," which the "sending the fleet, under" the forementioned "orders, is a convincing evidence."

The four frigates will be "of use for intelligence between you "and the fleet," and I have no farther orders relating to them from her Majesty. This I hope will be sufficient in answer to your $\frac{4}{15}$th, $\frac{11th}{22nd}$and $\frac{17}{28}$th of April, which are come to my hands, with the tariff, and the affidavit, and certificate for goods laden in Prasca's ship. [I] will do the person you recommend all the service I can, and shall give you no farther trouble to night, but to assure you that I am, always,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

In a duplicate of the foregoing letter, forwarded 25th May, there is added the following postscript:—

P. S. I have the favour of yours of 6th and 13th inst., and am to acquaint you, that her Majesty approves of your sending the two frigates towards Lisbon; they may be of use to you in gaining intelligence.

The powder for his Royal Highness, the Earl of Peterborough has orders to take care of, who sailed with the fleet from St. Helen's, on Wednesday last, and was out of sight yesterday morning. I have no more to say of yours of the 13th; but to desire you will, from time to time, give as early advices as you can to the Admirals of the Duke of Savoy's condition. You will please to take care to convey the enclosed to Mr. Crowe.

From Queen Anne to the Duke of Savoy.

Mon Frère et Cousin, L'affection et le zèle signalé que vous avez fait paroître pour la défense de la cause commune, m'ont donné une idée la plus avantageuse de votre

courage, et de votre prudence, quoique vous n'ayez pas encore eu le succès que vous avez merité. Je vous assure que je vous donneray toute l'assistance, tant par ma flotte, que par mes troupes de débarquement, qu'on puisse attendre de moy, pour remettre sous votre obéissance les Villes de Nice et de Ville-Franche, et j'ay envoyé mes ordres à mon Envoyé Extraordinaire auprès de vous, de vous informer de toutes les mesures concertées pour votre service, ne doutant pas que vous ne preniez, de votre côté, celles qui seront les plus convenables pour co-operer avec mes forces à la fin que je me propose tant pour votre avantage particulier, que pour celui de la cause commune. Je suis avec beaucoup de verité et d'affection,

Mon Frère et Cousin,

Votre affectionnée Sœur et Cousin,

'*A Kensington, le 22e de May*, 1705. ANNE R.

Au Duc de Savoye, Mon Frère et Cousin.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 28th May, 1705.

Sir,

This is only to cover to you the enclosed letter, and a copy of one from her Majesty to the Duke of Savoy, the original whereof, at Count Briançon's request, I have delivered to him to be sent to his Royal Highness by the courier who brings you this. I intended, as you will see by a postscript in the enclosed, to have sent to you a letter for Mr. Crowe,[1] at Genoa; but the courier, passing through that city, will take care to deliver it to himself. The grand fleet was off Plymouth on the 25th, with a fair gale of wind, standing to the Westward. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

June 1st, 1705.

Sir,

I return you many thanks for the favour of what you sent me, in the cipher of your last letter.

[1] See page 202.

By the time you can receive this, we have reason to hope our fleet may be upon the coast of Catalonia, they being sailed from hence 9 days since with a fair wind, and by our letters from Lisbon, of the 27th past, we have also reason to hope that expedition may not be very difficult, nor of long continuance, so that in case you should have any commands for our Admirals, I flatter myself you would find them both ready and willing to obey them. I wish I could but hope as heartily that you would be in a condition to make use of them.

We have certain intelligence that the squadron of West France, consisting of 17 ships of-the-line, were still in Brest since our fleet sailed; the consequence of which is, that, though we have great ground to believe their intention is to join their ships at Toulon, as soon as they can, yet we dare not but keep a like number in these seas to observe their motions, to stay with them, if they stay here, and if they go, to follow them, and join our fleet, the main body of which is, in the mean time, between the 2 squadrons of East and West France, and considerably superior, I hope, to the strongest. This is, as well as I can describe it to you, the present posture of our maritime affairs, which I had a mind to explain to you as particularly as I could, that you may manage your own small fleet, and the advices you are to send by them accordingly. I remain, always,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, June 5th, 1705.

Sir,

I have received the favour of two of yours of the $\frac{9}{20}$th past. That which was partly in cipher was to the same effect with your former letter; but Count Briançon goes on in his solicitation, and we do not check him notwithstanding what you mention, in hopes that Prince Eugene will put him in a better condition before the fleet arrives in the Mediterranean, though I believe it will not be long before you hear of them there. The Admirals were before Brest the 30th past, and, finding the French ships still in that port, made the best of their

way for Lisbon the 31st, with a fair wind, leaving a detachment of her Majesty's ships to observe and follow them into the Mediterranean, if they take that course. Our land-forces that were to go from Ireland were embarked the 22nd past, and may very well be at Lisbon as soon as the Admirals. Her Majesty commands me to acquaint you, that you have done neither too much nor too little for the poor child that is stolen from its father and mother, and would have you make use of her name for obtaining what you have so well solicited, since it is hitherto without fruit, and you may assure his Royal Highness that his complying in this matter will be very acceptable to her Majesty, and the whole Protestant interest. I am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

Windsor, 12th June, 1705.

Sir,

I have the favour of yours of the $\frac{16}{27}$ th, of which some part being in cipher, I can answer nothing to it from hence; but as to your request for leave to return, I think I may answer, you need not doubt of the Queen's indulgence in that particular, in its proper season; especially when it is so modestly asked, and that your health has need of it, which I am very sorry to hear.

I hope, before this comes to your hands, you will have received better advices of, and from, our fleet than I can pretend to give you from hence; only I can tell you, that the squadron of West France is still in Brest; and though we conclude them designed for Toulon, yet the apprehension of not finding their passage very safe, or their unwillingness to quit their own coast, till they were certain our fleet had no designs upon it, has hitherto kept them in harbour, though they have been ready these three weeks to put to sea.

I am glad to find by your letter, that you are a little more easy at Turin: it would be too much to continue two years together in so hazardous and troublesome a situation. I am always,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 12th June, 1705.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge the favour of yours of $\frac{16}{27}$th past, with Captain Dolman's letter to the Doge of Genoa, and the Requête of Jean Sallien. Your Admiral's style and English spirit is much commended, and what you have done is approved; but I have no particular orders for you, or Mr. Crowe, at present. I hope the fleet will soon be near you. The Brest squadron was in that port last week, and Admiral Bing, who came from that coast on the 6th inst., is returning thither to observe them. Our advices concerning the preparations at Toulon do not agree with what you write. The French letters say, that squadron cannot be at sea till the end of July, if at all this summer. As to the case of Sallien, my last will have acquainted you, that you are to use her Majesty's name if there be occasion; but, Count de Briançon told me to day, that the child will be restored to the mother pursuant to a decision made by the Divines and Canon Lawyers. I have discoursed him upon the point, since he began to speak of it to me, and, I think, have convinced him there can be no question in law, but the child must be immediately restored to the parents, and they are not to be deprived of the custody of the child while any proofs are depending touching the filiation, since they were in possession of it. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. Hedges.

From Mr. Edward Southwell to Mr. Hill.

Dublin, 17th June, 1705.

I received, Dear Sir, yours of the 6th May, S. N., and disposed of the enclosed as you desired. I made your compliments to his Grace. We finished our Parliament yesterday, with honour and success, and in ten days his Grace goes for England. I shall be hindered by a very favourable accident for a month; for this morning my wife was brought to bed of a brave boy, and both are well after it.

I am indeed chosen at Rye again, without pains; but as the man said [of] a good feast (who had dined,) that he wished

he had his share in money. I reckon we shall be in England 4, 5, or 6 months. I frequently lament the melancholy station you are in, where you gain great honour, and lose a great deal of ground.

This country affords no news; what we have contributed to the war this year is all gone to Portugal, or with Lord Peterborough. I am, with very great truth,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. EDWARD SOUTHWELL.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

Windsor, June 22nd, 1705.

Sir,

I have given myself the honour to write by this post a letter to his Royal Highness the Duke of Savoy, in answer to one with which he was pleased lately to honour me, containing a copy of a letter he had written some time before to the Duke of Marlborough, chiefly upon the subject of the operations of the fleet, and expressing his wishes that it might come early to his assistance at Nice; and, at the same time, owning how little probability there was of his being in circumstances to assist our wishes in any enterprise upon Toulon, which I have answered, after the usual compliments, that my greatest apprehension was, [that] the French fleet, being in our opinion far inferior in force to ours, would take the part of keeping themselves quiet in the port of Toulon till the season of the year would oblige ours to be turning their faces homewards; after which the French would infallibly have all that coast at their mercy during the winter, and that this being very obvious in itself, and like to be attended with the greatest inconvenience and disadvantage to the allies, I submitted, whether they ought not to make one great effort by sea and land to attempt an insult upon the enemy's fleet, even in the port of Toulon. This was the substance of my letter, which, however, I hope you will not take notice of to his Royal Highness, unless he mentions it to you.

I have ventured to write this without my cipher, because the thing must come to bear, if ever, by that time this comes to you.

I should be glad, however, to hear you have received this, and always am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 22nd June, 1705.

Sir,

I have received the favour of yours, of 3rd inst., N. S., which has been laid before the Queen; but I have no orders for you upon it. I hope it will not be long 'ere you hear of her Majesty's fleet in the Mediterranean, and then the Genoese will show as much respect to her Majesty as they have done to her enemies, if we had as much occasion to make use of their port. I wish our success may be such as to make them apprehensive of the dangers of their not observing a more strict neutrality; for they never will do it, till they are sensible that England can do them as much mischief as France. We are not yet certain whether the Brest squadron is still in that port or not. Sir G. Bing, who sailed for that coast on the 18th inst., will soon inform us. The transports and convoy for the 2500 men sailed from Cork the 7th, and we hope are joined the grand fleet before this time, the wind having been fair ever since. I send you the enclosed from [my] Lord Treasurer, and am, with truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Dr. H. Newton to Mr. Hill.

Florence, 23rd June, 1705.

The Roman letters advise only that the Pope declining to give satisfaction for the affront done the Imperial ambassador in arresting one of his gentlemen, [the] said minister had despatched away a courier for Vienna, which when the Pope heard he sent a Prelate to promise satisfaction, and persuade his Excellency to send another to recall that gone, but the ambassador told him, that his credulity had been too much abused on this occasion, and he should take care how in future he gave credit to any proposition of that Court.

A gentleman, lately arrived from Prince Eugene's camp,

says, [it]was about 28 thousand strong, but some of them in a tattered condition, which they went remedying as fast as clothes arrived for them; and that by this month they would all be completely supplied, and reinforced to 35 thousand.

Three Maltese men-of-war are arrived at Leghorn, and it is said were designed for Lisbon, but most of their equipage being French, they seem apprehensive of meeting our fleet; so it is thought they will return back to Malta.

Here is past by a French courier of the Cabinet, [who] it is said, brings news of that Monarch's being relapsed, and seized with a rheumatism.

Sir,

Since my last the great Duke's Secretary has brought me the answer to the memorials I had given in to his Highness: to the 1st, about the taking off the prohibition of English cloth at Florence, he sets forth the great customs upon Florence wine in England, which when they shall be taken off, he says, he is ready to do his part as to the other: to that about Messrs. Serle, that it lies wholly in the Pope's power and not in his; that he has sent to Rome about it: and upon a second memorial given in by me on the same head, in which I have set forth, how it may be resented in England, that an account shall be likewise sent about it again to Rome: and as to Plowman, he complains that he was condemned to pay so much money to Plowman's use, without being heard by his Envoy first at London; and does not seem to have any inclination to comply in the least in that matter. I am,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. HEN. NEWTON.

From Mr. A. Cardonnel to Mr. Hill.

Camp at Pruym, the 23rd June, 1705.

Sir

The last we have received from you are of the 27th past, and 3rd instant. You will have guessed, by what you will have received since from me, that we were not like to succeed in our designs on the Moselle, through the failure, if not the ill will, of our friends to assist us. I am almost persuaded of the latter.

As soon as my Lord Duke came to Coblentz, his first care

was to notify to the Electors of Treves, Mayence, Palatin, the Landgrave of Hesse, Chapter of Cologne, and the little Princes adjoining, how far their assistance would be requisite towards carrying on his projects, and desired they would immediately send their Commissaries to adjust with Monsieur Perters, at Coblentz, the proportions each was to furnish in three thousand artillery-horses, including some waggons to transport our great artillery, and ammunition, from Trarbach to the siege, without which his Grace told them it would be impossible for him to act; it is true these Princes sent their Commissaires in a few days, but to little purpose, since they would not come up to the number, nor agree to the proportions, neither declare when what they would furnish should be ready. There were only the good Elector of Treves, according to his constant practice, and the Landgrave of Hesse, that were willing to do their parts. In the mean while, by the disappointment of Prince Louis to meet my Lord Duke at Creutznach, you know his Grace was obliged to go post as far as Rastadt, where we found his condition of health might very well have saved part of that journey, since he could walk about the whole afternoon we arrived, and might with much more ease have come in a chaise or berlin to Creutznach; here it was agreed, that the Prince should make his forces march (though in much less number than were promised or expected) in four or five days from the 23rd of May, for his Grace took his leave of him that night, and came away at four next morning post for Treves; if the Prince could not march in person with his troops, he was to follow them. Now if this had been complied with, we might reasonably have expected them, the 5th or 6th at furthest, at Treves; but instead of hastening them, he ordered the troops to march round by Creutznach, from whence my Lord Duke had a letter from Comte Frise, intimating that the Prince would continue his march the 10th by Berkenvelt, where they should have been the 13th or 14th: thither his Grace sent Quarter-master General Cadogan to wait on the Prince, to confer with him, and let him know the situation we were in; but he was forced to go two marches further before he met the troops, and found the Prince was gone, some hours before he arrived, to the waters of Slangebade for his health. During all this while his Grace was pressing for the three thousand horses, for the artillery, but to no effect, the Princes declaring,

at last, they could not propose to furnish them in less than five weeks. Hereupon,—the troops beginning already to suffer for want of forage, the extreme backwardness of the season having destroyed most of the grass and oats, whereas if we had been enabled to march to the siege of Saar Louis, by the time it was projected, we should have had all the country of Lorrain at our devotion, which would have supplied us very plentifully, and now his Grace receiving every day expresses from Monsieur D'Auverquerc, the Deputies of the States in his army, and from the States themselves, to send them immediate succours, to put a stop to the progress of the Maréchal de Villeroy, and secure their frontiers,—it was resolved, with the advice of the Generals, to march with the main body of the army, since his Grace could not stay in these parts without an apparent hazard of ruining the troops for want of subsistence. Accordingly his Grace marched the 17th from the camp at Elft, where he had been fifteen days without being joined by one man but what were in English and Dutch pay. We were induced to go thither, as we did the 3rd, for several reasons; first, the want of forage at Treves; secondly, the apprehensions of Monsieur de Villars's marching forward and possessing the plains of Taverne, which would have made it almost impracticable for us to have got out, the enemy being, with the detachment of Marcin's army, at least equal to us in numbers, and lastly, his Grace was in hopes by this march to have surprised and drawn Monsieur de Villars to a battle, or, at least, have obliged him to send for a reinforcement from Monsieur Villeroy to ease our friends on the Maese.

As soon as the army was on their march the 17th, by break-of-day, my Lord Duke sent an express to Comte Frise, with whom the Prince left the command of the German troops, to desire him to come and meet him at Treves, that he might confer with him, and give him his advice for his proceedings; the Comte was come that day to Berkenvelt, and, at the rate he marched, would hardly have joined us in the camp by this time; but, instead of waiting on his Grace, he sent a letter by an officer to excuse himself, and made a countermarch the 18th. The 19th all our foot marched forward from the neighbourhood of Treves towards the Maese. The same day his Grace gave the necessary orders for the security of that important place; where he leaves the seven thousand Palatins, in English and

Dutch pay, and the Westphalians, making together sixteen battalions and fifteen squadrons. The four thousand Wirtembergers in the States' pay, and the twelve thousand Prussians, his Grace has ordered to join Prince Louis's army, with which, if he were in earnest, he might be able to act offensively, or, at least, to make a great diversion. His Grace despatched likewise Lieutenant-General Hompetch post to Monsieur D' Auverquerc, to acquaint him he was coming with all diligence to his relief, and to concert matters so as they might be able to act as soon as they joined, and sent Colonel Durel, Adjutant-General of the foot, to Vienna, to inform the Emperor of the disappointments he had met with, and the necessity that obliged him to march back to the Maese. His Grace writ the same thing to the German Princes, and the 20th marched forward with all the horse, in hopes to make such diligence as to save Liege, if not, to surprise the Maréchal de Villeroy and engage him to a battle.

Thus I have given you a short history of our expedition to the Moselle, where I hope I shall never come again, though his Grace has promised the Emperor and the German Princes to be back in six weeks, if our affairs below will permit, and he can have good assurances that he shall be better seconded upon his return.

My Lord Duke, in his to his Royal Highness which goes here enclosed, refers him to you for the account of his disappointments, and I think I have been pretty plain in it. His Grace in all his own letters has been more reserved with relation to our German General. I hope we shall soon have some good news from our fleet that may make us a little amends. The French had not begun to fire on the Citadel of Liege on Sunday-night, so that we shall certainly come on them unawares. His Grace gives you his humble service, and I am, with due respect,

Dear sir,

Your most faithful and obedient servant,

To Mr. Hill. A. CARDONNEL.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 29th June, 1705.

Sir,

I have none from you to acknowledge, nor any thing

in command to trouble you with to night. I cannot, however, omit telling you, that our letters from Lisbon, yesterday, brought us the good news of our fleet being arrived there, and that the Lyme and Mary-Galley were likewise there. I had the favour of a letter from my Lord Peterborough, a copy whereof I send you enclosed, as the best account I can give you of our affairs in Portugal, and by that, perhaps, you will not think them in a very good posture. The letters from Lisbon are dated 22nd inst., N. S., and tell us, that the Prince of Hesse, and the Earl of Galway were expected there the next day. Yesterday we had letters from Sir G. Byng, dated the 25th, from off Brest, giving us an account, that the French squadron was still in harbour there. At the same time we had likewise the good news of the safe arrival of all our Lisbon fleet of merchantmen, for which our merchants were before in great pain.

On Wednesday last the business of Captain Prasca's ship being brought before the Lords of Appeals, their Lordships had that regard to the Duke of Savoy's subjects, and your recommendation of their case, that they ordered all their effects to be forthwith restored without the least difficulty.

I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 6th July, 1705.

Sir,

I have received the favour of your 10th and 17th inst., N. S., since my last, which was of the 29th past. We hear Prince Eugene has passed the Oglio, and [I] am very glad the letters you had from him give so good hopes of relief. Sir G. Byng has been forced into Torbay by a S. W. wind, but is returned again to his station off Brest, it being believed that the French squadron is still in that port. The Lords of the Committee, at a conference with the Envoy of Portugal, have pressed very earnestly, that the 13 thousand Portuguese, in English and Dutch pay, be put under the command of her Majesty's General the next campaign, in autumn; but I believe there will be a great difficulty in obtaining that point, though there is little good to be expected

without it. We expect every moment to hear, that the Admirals are gone forward to the Mediterranean. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From the Earl of Peterborough to Mr. Hill.

July the 7th, 1705.

Sir,

Had it not been for the last letter that came from you, which I received from the Secretary at Lisbon, I had orders which would have brought me immediately on the coast of Italy. It is surprising that a minister should make offers in his master's name which are afterwards disowned, and I am very sorry it falls out so, since the Portuguese, by going out of the field before we came to Lisbon, have left the French and Spaniards at entire liberty to oppose any enterprise from the forces embarked, and as the opposition preparing against us is very great, so I find no hopes of much concurrence or assistance from the Spaniards in any place. My inclinations were entirely bent to what your last intelligence has prevented, and, in my own opinion, I had force enough—having near ten thousand men—to effect alone what was desired. I send this letter under such uncertainties, that I only desire you to inform the Duke of Savoy, and the last Envoy that was in England, that I shall send in a few days a ship to Leghorn or Genoa, to the last first, where I desire some person of trust may be to receive the letters which it is highly necessary should come safe to his Royal Highness's hands, as those that I shall write to yourself. This is all at present that I dare trust by this opportunity, but hope I shall hear fully from you. Invitations upon some good grounds would bring a great force towards your parts, if they came in time. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. PETERBOROUGH.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 10th July, S. V., 1705.

Sir,

I have received yours, of the $\frac{13}{24}$th June, and have nothing to trouble you with by this post; but to acquaint you that the 4 frigates, which were under your orders, are now to be put under the orders of the joint Admirals of the fleet,

who are to bring them home, or send them back to the coast of Italy and put them under your orders again at the end of the campaign, as they shall judge best for her Majesty's service. I am &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Monsieur V. Thomas to Mr. Hill.

Au Camp de Castagnitto, ce 29e Juillet, 1705.

Monsieur,

Son Altesse Royale a jugé àpropos d'écrire une nouvelle lettre à Monsieur, le Comte de Peterborough, et lui envoyer un duplicate des précédentes. Elle souhaiteroit de les faire mettre en chiffre, et comme elle croit que vous en aviez un avec lui, j'envoye à Turin M. Merel avec les minutes, auquel je vous prie de permettre qu'il puisse se servir de votre chiffre, et vous pourrez ordonnner à quelqu' un de vos sécrétaires de lui dicter chez vous pour faire plûtôt. J'ai l'honneur d'être avec une passion très sincère,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

A Monsieur Hill. VICT. THOMAS.

From Mr. Secretary Harley to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, August $\frac{10\text{th}}{21\text{st}}$, 1705.

Sir,

During the absence of Mr. Secretary Hedges in the country, it is my good fortune to acknowledge two of your letters, the last, dated the $\frac{11}{22}\text{nd}$ July, was received on Wednesday. You are certainly in the right in what you say of that great Prince, his Royal Highness of Savoy. I have made that compliment to Monsieur Briançon, and you will please to make it to his Royal Highness himself in the Queen's name. The fleet with the King of Spain, and the land-forces are so much nearer you than us, you will sooner hear of their operations, and learn from them how far they can be useful to you, or that the condition they are in will enable them to spare some of their ships for your assistance.

Enclosed I send you a letter from my Lord Treasurer, which

will supersede my saying more to you than to assure you, I am, with great respect,

Sir,

Your most faithful and most humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. RO. HARLEY.

From Lord Godolphin to Mr. Hill.

Windsor, the $\frac{10th}{21st}$ August, 1705.

Sir,

I am now able to tell you, that the Queen does give you leave to *return whenever you see her services will admit of it;* and as soon as Mr. Secretary Hedges comes to town, who is now absent, I suppose you will have her leave signified to you more in form. The other part of that request relating to Mr. Chetwynd will not be granted, it being thought more proper to send one from hence to relieve you. I don't know what to say to you about public affairs, that can be to any purpose; because you know better than I can tell you what our fleet is doing. I know only that there can be no junction of the ships from West France, they being now besieged in Brest by Sir G. Byng with a stronger squadron, so that our Admirals, having no enemy but those in Toulon, will, I hope, be at liberty, at least, to send you a detachment for the relief of Nice and Villa-Franca; but being at too much distance for me to know what they will, or what they can, do, I must hope that Providence will inspire them for the best, not doubting but it will be seconded by your prudence as far as there is room for you to act. God send us good news. Hughetan's being with us in England makes a great noise. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. GODOLPHIN.

From the Duke of Marlborough to Mr Hill.

Camp at Basse-warre, 21st August, 1705.

Sir,

I am obliged to you for several letters, the last, of the 19th July, arrived yesterday, and gives a melancholy account of your affairs, which must have been much more so the next day, when you were obliged to quit Chivas. I assure you I am as sensibly affected at his Royal Highness's condition as is possible, and have, for this month past, been doing all

that in me lay, by the most pressing letters to Vienna, that some reinforcement might be hastened to Prince Eugene, to enable him to act with more vigour for your relief. The letters I receive from thence assure me, they are doing all they can, and as I am desired to contribute that the 4000 Wirtembergers in the Queen's and the States' pay be ordered thither, I shall very readily do my part. They design you likewise a great many more troops, as no doubt his Royal Highness will be informed before this can reach you; but I fear they will be too long a coming.

You will already have been informed of the disappointment I met with here 3 days since, when the army was drawn up in battle, in face of the enemy, with the prospect of a glorious day. This you may believe makes me very uneasy, and leaves me very little hope of being able to do any thing with these people, who will never be brought to act offensively, though they have never so much advantage on their side. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. LE PR. ET DUC DE MARLBOROROUGH.

From the Earl of Peterborough to Mr. Hill.

[Barcelona,] August 28th, 1705.

Sir,

Your letter sent to me from England was very surprising, since it seems very extraordinary that a minister should, in his master's name, make propositions which you say are now disowned. That letter of yours has changed the whole scene of the war, and diverted the fleet and 10 thousand men from the relief of the Duke of Savoy, and coming as high as the coast of Italy. I wish any services we are now like to be employed upon may answer the views we had the other way. Upon accounts from Lisbon of the wretched circumstances of affairs there, the ministers being satisfied that either pride, ignorance, laziness, or disaffection make the Portuguese wholly useless, upon the receipt of your letter, where you not only assure [them] the Duke of Savoy cannot help any operation, but that his Envoy, without his knowledge, gave any such expectation, it was natural our Court should direct [the Queen's arms] towards Catalonia as the only enterprise [which] was left, having reason to foresee what would happen in Lisbon, in which they did not mistake, the last declaration from the Portuguese amounting to this, that

in the summer and in the autumn they could engage in no considerable attempt, so that no help could be expected from them either for Cales, or any other enterprise in Andalusia till spring. You are pleased in your letter to give it as your opinion, that instead of removing the French now in the county of Nice, you wish the numbers were rather greater: upon such foundations nothing remained but to attempt in Catalonia, and accordingly such are our directions.

However, it is almost the general opinion of all the officers of sea and land that are in this service, that this is the most improper measure that could be taken. The highest success we can flatter ourselves with is attended, as we think, with great difficulties and inconveniences. All the ministers of Portugal, and the King, and Queen Regent of Lisbon, have protested against it. The Dutch minister and General have done the like; and I know nobody went about to contradict them. I am sure I did not; for I shall never say but what I think. The reasons they gave were, that though the Catalans are easily moved, and brought to an insurrection, yet that they are very false and inconstant; that they are not rich, and [are] unused to pay taxes, so that no support from them can be expected for the war; that if they are pressed that way, they will infallibly turn sides; that they were very much rebutted and disgusted last year; that it is a new war begun in a place too distant from England and Holland, and even from Portugal itself; that it is a dangerous coast, and provided with no safe ports for our fleet; that it is not only near the French, and to be supplied easily by land, but that when our fleet is absent they may be assisted with forces, and all necessaries by sea; that in Barcelona there are 3500 Neapolitan and other regular foot, of whose inclination every body is ignorant; 1200 horse near the town, and an impossibility of taking it, unless we have great correspondencies in the town, of which I see nothing, only general uncertain hopes of the good inclination of the people. The Prince of Hesse even is against attempting in Catalonia, and [is] sending to Lisbon another project; lastly, that successes in this country, unless maintained with great vigour and expense, are rather prejudicial, and, if so, that our forces are divided betwixt Portugal and Catalonia.

Sir, It is needless to entertain you with my thoughts of the other services that might have been effected, if your letters

had not procured other orders than those I came out with, which were very much to my satisfaction. I shall now endeavour to promote the services I am engaged in, to the best of my power, which diversion may do the Duke of Savoy some service, though the remedy I thought too slow for the disease, but Providence takes care of that Prince, when other human means are wanting, and I hope he will be sufficient to his own relief and security. But I wonder at your letters which seem to expect now to see our fleet upon the coasts of Italy, when you seemed to intimate in yours you hoped our ships would be more usefully employed elsewhere. Such bodies, in the seasons of calms and levants, do not move so nimbly as some seem to expect. The Dutch have positive orders to return homewards, if in the straits, about the beginning of September, our style; and when those services you thought more important are over, I leave you to judge what new voyages and enterprises we shall undertake. I wish we [may] have time to perform any; for measures changed by those not upon the place seldom prove successful.

This letter has been writ a good while, and afore we came to Barcelona; but the ships, designed to set your ammunition ashore in Italy, being heavy sailers, they could make no better way from Altea than the rest of the fleet; so that they came with us hither; and I was willing to send you some account of the posture of affairs here. They are such that you can in a great measure contribute to make successful to a high degree, and that you should endeavour, for the public good, for the honour of the Queen's arms, to the utmost in your power, and for one reason more, which is, that you are the occasion of our arms being turned this way which were designed for Italy. The disposition of the people here is so entirely in our favour, and we have so good a body of foot, which is attended with near 1000 good horse, making in all near 9000 good men, that it is most certain that nothing is wanting but money, for the King of Spain to encourage and entertain those that would engage in his service. And I am almost certain that the surprise of such an unexpected attempt, with 200 thousand pounds, would determine, in 3 months, the fate of this war, which consumes so many millions. My Lord Galloway without orders, upon the King of Spain's embarking, and the intelligence received from you and Mr. Crowe, ordered six regiments, two of dragoons and four of foot, with

money for three months for their subsistence; and the Ambassador Methuen advanced 30 thousand pounds without any orders from home, upon so extraordinary an expedition. This example I hope you will follow, when you find the King of Spain engaged with as many of his subjects as he will allow of, or that we could maintain; besides the honour of her Majesty's arms, and 10 thousand of her best troops that have undertaken a noble design, which wants nothing but the necessary support in money to make it as remarkable as useful to the common interest.

When forced contrary to my instructions, and to my own judgment and inclination upon Barcelona, when my first directions were for Italy, where not fixing upon a single design as that against Toulon, I might either have made a violent and quick-working diversion by an attempt upon Naples, or landing under the guns of the castle of Nice have drove the French from thence, and afterwards have joined the Duke of Savoy with 10 thousand men, the best troops in being, to the prevention certainly of any ill accident, and probably to the securing the turn of the war in Italy in our favour, upon which I have always reckoned the whole depends, and with this, the person of the King of Spain, no ill assistance, in my poor opinion, to the procuring of Milan, and all the Italian territories to the house of Austria. But this rejoicing scene (which engaged me to undertake so laborious and difficult a task) being vanished, it was hard from what I liked best, to be drove upon what I disliked most,—any designs in Catalonia; but, however, being resolved, as much as in me lay, to rectify the mistakes of which I am sufficiently innocent, I proposed to myself a design, which, as I resolved, I kept secret till it had reduced the army almost to a mutiny; for the measures I took made them believe I was rash enough to design to engage them in a siege of Barcelona, wherein there were regular troops strong enough to have engaged us in the field, had they had the inclination, or equal virtue as our own, the garrison consisting of about 7, or I believe, 6000 foot, and 800 horse. Besides, the town must have been open, which could not be encompassed when the French were before it with 30 thousand men. We know of 1000 horse marching from Madrid, and of several regiments expected at Perpignan, two of which are dragoons. I was very far from such a thought, but however called a council of war; when I had proposed every thing

almost for a march, which will be very surprising, but in that respect more reasonable, in that every officer rejected the attacking the place, as a design the most ridiculous and impossible, but promised the King, for his honour and the support of those that had appeared for him, to engage in any other design for his service, though never so hazardous. Here I expected them, and the fleet mightily concerned that something might be done that might not render the year and service contemptible, have agreed in a council of war, that any enterprise, though never so hazardous, should be attempted, rather than to embark and do nothing, and [yet] I could no way engage the Admirals, nor indeed the King of Spain, to look towards Italy. The others think your letters have wholly defeated that project, and the King thinks the affairs of Italy in a tolerable way by the advance of Prince Eugene, so that I am brought, as it were by necessity, to that operation which I have ever inclined to, if obliged to act in Spain. It must assist, by the diversion of both sides which it must cause both from Italy and Portugal. I wish the last would but act, and then the consequence of my design would appear, and you should soon see our King of Spain upon the throne. When, at Madrid, they find a body of men increasing like a snow-ball, marching from one end to the other of the most fertile parts of Spain along the coasts, from Barcelona to Alicant, or thereabouts, with a fleet at hand to assist, judge what a consternation [they must be in]. They have no foot in their whole pay able to deal with us. It is true they have 7000 horse; but they must make a good march of one side from Andalusia, through the most parts of Spain, and then the frontiers of Portugal are abandoned, or those that follow us from France when we have 20 days march of them; and if we could not fix winter-quarters so securely as to invite the King to stay, which nothing in the earth could prevent if we had money, and that the King should embark again at Alicant, or those parts, what a plague will it have proved, and what an affront, to have marched through all Spain, and have forced them to fatigue all their horse to no purpose, to the ruin of their greatest strength, and to have left them in Portugal the frontiers free, and an opportunity of doing whatever they please. But I hope to fix the King in as secure a post to pass the winter in as the other gentleman has at Madrid. I have already taken the Castle of Denia, as I came upwards.

There is a garrison in it, [and] the whole country is already in motion. It is just by Altea, the only watering place in the centre of the Spanish coast, by the rich and open towns of Valencia and Alicant, which must submit, and, as I hope, we may possess ourselves of Majorca and Minorca, and secure a place for our fleet to sustain us even in the winter, by the winter-squadron which will be much better situated at Maon than in Lisbon river. This must be supported with money, and a regular war is begun in a sensible place, and our Monarch may have too much upon his hands to maintain a real war in Spain, in Italy, and other places. The good news from Flanders you have enjoyed long ago, though it came to us but yesterday. To sum up the whole matter and make an end of this tedious letter, money is the whole business, the more you send the better; but beggars must not be choosers. I send a clean frigate which sails well, that may bring it securely. You may take the Captain's receipt, and give him orders to give it to the paymaster of the army, subject to such directions as the Queen has ordered [in regard to] the other monies. This may be brought to Altea. I have despatched 3 ships upon the same errand, for if we had money to form the horse that is necessary, and might be had, by the good disposition of the people, we should soon have a blow for Madrid.

Sir, You will now be surprised at the conclusion of this letter. These measures are all altered. The siege of Barcelona is impracticable, and so concluded by several councils of war; and by fresh letters arrived from England, we take measures [that] will amaze and please you. We bring you 800 dragoons and 6000 foot, with resolution not only to land, but serve with you all winter. The news of our quitting Barcelona will be a secret, since it is so sudden a resolution, and I have time to say no more that the frigate may sail, when persuaded we are engaged in a siege. I lose no time after a resolution the circumstances of which are too long to relate. The Duke of Savoy will know what use to make of this succour, only upon our landing some little place, castle, or any contemptible thing must be taken, to give a pretence for the Dutch to stay during the winter by their orders. Nice we fear is deserted: it must be some little thing that is easily insulted, because our fleet cannot stay above 4 days. We are ready to march to any service in conjunction with his

Royal Highness, or to join Prince Eugene. We hear of a great battle where great numbers are killed. Let the event be as it will, [it will] be a comfortable *renfort* and I doubt not but that you will be transported to see us. This is a strange letter; it has been a week a writing. We bring the ammunition with us; shall attempt to land at Nice, Oneiglia, or perhaps Porto-Specie. I can only say, you will take your measures upon so extraordinary an event. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. PETERBOROUGH.

Queen Anne to the Duke of Savoy.

'A Windsor, le 10e Septembre, 1705.

Mon Frère et Cousin, J'ai reçu votre lettre du 16e Août, et je me trouve touchée d'une manière fort sensible dans tout ce qui regarde de si près les interêts de votre Altesse Royale. Je ne perdrai pas un moment à donner les ordres nécessaires pour satisfaire aux demandes qu'elle me fait en tout ce qui depend de moi, et vous pouvez vous assurer que rien ne manquera de ma part pour vous donner un secours aussi prompt que me sera possible. Pour cet effet je ne trouve pas à présent un meilleur moyen que d'entrer dans la belle résolution de mes bons amis et alliés les Etats-Généraux, ce que je fais avec beaucoup d'ardeur ayant envoyé une lettre au Roi d'Espagne pour lui faire comprendre l'utilité de cette expédition, et des ordres à mes Amiraux pour l'exécuter; et vous pouvez être persuadé que je ferai tous mes efforts pour le soutien d'un Allié qui s'est tant signalé par ses actions et par ses souffrances pour la cause commune. J'ai toujours resolue de n'entrer jamais dans aucun projet de paix sans qu' on ait un égard particulier aux interêts de Votre Altesse Royale. Je remarque avec beaucoup de plaisir les assurances que les Etats-Généraux vous ont données sur ce sujet. Je vous promets non seulement d'y concourir avec eux, mais aussi de faire tout ce que je pourrai pour les tenir fermes dans une résolution si juste et si louable. Je suis avec beaucoup de vérité et d'affection,

Mon Frère et Cousin,

Votre affectionnée Sœur et Cousin,

ANNE R.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Cockpit, 11th September, S. V., 1705.

Sir,

My last was of the 6th inst., with copies of the States' resolution, and the memorial of their Envoy here, relating to succours to be sent to the Duke of Savoy; since which that matter has been maturely considered, and the enclosed papers will acquaint you with the result, and will serve you for a full and true explanation of all that I then wrote to you. The originals of what you have herewith are sent by Count Briançon's courier, being the Queen's letter to his Royal Highness, another to the King of Spain, and her Majesty's instructions to the joint Admirals, with copies of the memorials and States' resolutions; and you may acquaint his Royal Highness, that, for greater security, duplicates of all these were despatched directly to the fleet last night by a frigate on purpose. I must observe to you that, at this distance, it was not possible for her Majesty to give more positive orders, though she had it as much at heart to succour the Duke of Savoy, as he had to desire it. "The letter to the King of "Spain, and the instructions to the Admirals have not been "communicated to the ministers of the Duke of Savoy, and "the States-General; and I send it to you only for your in-"formation, and not to be taken notice of any farther, unless "you shall find it has been any other way communicated, in "which case you will use your best endeavours to satisfy his "Royal Highness, that, considering all circumstances, it was "not possible for her Majesty to write in stronger terms to "the King of Spain, or to send more positive instructions to "her Admirals." I have received your letter, of the $\frac{15}{26}$th past, and am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. Hedges.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 21st September, 1705.

Sir,

I have this day received your letter of the 9th September, N. S., and read it to her Majesty, from whom I have no commands to send you upon it; but I cannot, however, forbear telling you, that her Majesty expressed upon it a great deal of satisfaction in his Royal Highness's resolution, and,

by her expressions, appeared not to be behind hand with him in her's of supporting him. I hope long before this can come to your hands, that the Count de Briançon's courier will be arrived with you, and have delivered to you my packet, wherein you will have seen what her Majesty has done for his Royal Highness's relief and support, and, perhaps, you will have the news of the effect of it from the fleet before this can reach you, a detachment thereof being, by all our advices from abroad, gone for Catalonia, I believe, for that purpose, since the Admirals have an instruction for it, as you know by the copy I sent you of it. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From the Duke of Marlborough to Mr. Hill.

Camp, at Herenthals, the 28th September, 1705.

Sir,

I have received the favour of your letter, of the 2nd inst., and am very glad to see you are so sanguine, and that your affairs are altered so much for the better. You will find, by the return of the courier, that the Queen and the States have agreed to every thing that his Royal Highness desired; though it were to be wished the same orders had been given sooner. However, I hope this will give new life in your parts, and if our fleet and land-forces succeed in Catalonia, as all the accounts from those parts give us reason to hope they will, I make no doubt but you will soon find the good effect of it even as far as Turin, by the enemies being obliged to detach good part of their forces towards those frontiers. I writ to the Duke of Savoy under your cover this se'nnight, and hope my letter came safe to hand. "All the advices I "have from England and Holland give great assurance that "his Royal Highness will continue firm to the last. I "know not whence they have this good news; but I should "be glad to have it confirmed by you." We are come near to the end of our campaign, and are now only spinning out the time, that Prince Lewis may not be interrupted in his operations on the Rhine. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. MARLBOROUGH.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, the 28th September, 1705.

Sir,

The first part of your letter, of the 2nd inst., N. S., gave me great apprehensions; but I was very glad to find, that you, by your good offices and great care, had quieted the storm for the present; and I am to assure you her Majesty is very well pleased with your conduct in that matter. Mr. Stepney has orders to do what he can at Vienna to keep all quiet. I hope before this his Royal Highness has his ammunition, and something better from the fleet. All our French letters mention a great detachment being gone from the fleet; and some say 40 sail. I hope it is for Nizza. Monsieur Poussin, the French minister in Denmark, having published a report, that a treaty of peace was carrying on, and insinuating a probability of success, and a like report having been spread in other parts, her Majesty has commanded me to acquaint all her ministers in my province, as she has likewise done Mr. Harley for his, that the same is groundless and forged; and judging, that next to the conditions of the peace which are given out, the report itself is of the greatest prejudice to her Majesty's service, and the interest of the confederates, her Majesty would have you use all proper means to discredit the same, and satisfy all persons, that it is only an artifice of France designed, among other ill purposes, to create a jealousy among the allies. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. Hedges.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Cockpit, 5th October, S. V., 1705.

Sir,

Since mine to you, of the 28th past, I have received your two letters of the 16th of the same month. I must refer to what I then wrote to you concerning the report that is spread abroad of a peace, and a disposition in her Majesty to it, and can but repeat to you, that there is no manner of ground for it, which you are to assure the Duke of Savoy of, by all occasions, and that he may rely upon it her Majesty will never entertain the least thought of that kind without communicating it to him, and taking his concurrence therein, resolving to make his interest as much her consideration as

her own, whenever any thing of a peace is proposed, or thought of. By the letter we received yesterday, from the fleet and forces before Barcelona, of the 10th past, we have an account that the flag-officers had, in a council of war, come to a resolution to return with the fleet by the first fair wind that should happen after the 20th of that month, that time being full late enough for the fleet to stay in so dangerous a sea. This I thought fit to intimate to you, that you may be prepared to hear of its return, if you have it not sooner by a more short and direct way. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Monsieur Cavallier to Mr. Hill.

Du Camp de la Turin, le 13e Octobre 1705.

Monsieur,

Je me donne l'honneur de vous faire celle-ci ayant appris par un homme qui venoit du Languedoc qui m'a dit de la manière que les affaires y vont ; je n'ai pas voulu manquer d'en informer Votre Excellence. Je souhaitois vous l' envoyer mais il n'a pas voulu venir crainte d'être reconnu. Il m'assure que le nommé Claris avoit 200 hommes avec lui. C'est un homme qui était de ma troupe ; et un nommé Portefrajeue qui en a autant. Comme on fait marcher les hommes petits et grands, pour aller en Catalogne, ils grossissent toujours. Il y a même beaucoup de Papistes qui se joignent tous les jours avec eux. J'espère que votre Excellence, voyant cela, il aura la bonté de m'obtenir un congé de S.A.R. pour aller en Suisse. Je me fais fort de trouver un bon nombre des gens pour y aller, comme l'occasion est devant nos yeux is favorable. J'irois joindre Monsieur le Marquis de Guiscard en Hollande, comme ils se contredisent fort avec Monsieur le Marquis de Miremont. Il est su qu'ils ne feront rien et le temps s'écoulera toujours sans qu'on donne aucun secours aux pauvres gens. C'est pour moi j'ai honneur de vous dire qu'au péril de mon sang et de ma vie je ferai tout mon possible pour les aller joindre, dans quel endroit que je sois; soit d'ici ou d'ailleurs. Si je vois qu'il n'y ait pas diligence je ferai de mon côté tout ce qu'il me sera possible avec le secours de Dieu, et j'espère que je ne perdrai pas mon tems. Je suis tout persuadé que Votre Excellence aura la bonté d'y donner la main et son approbation puisque cela n'est que

pour la délivrance des pauvres catis et pour l'avancement de la gloire de Dieu que je le fais; je vous demande toujours l'honneur de votre puissante protection puisque je suis à jamais avec un profond respect,

Monsieur,

De Votre Excellence,

Le très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

'*A Monsieur Hill.* CAVALLIER.'[1]

From the Duke of Marlborough to Mr. Hill.

Camp, at Brecht, the 22nd October, 1705.

Sir,

You will already have been informed of the journey I am going to undertake this winter to Vienna, and may easily believe, nothing could prevail with me to undergo so much fatigue, and to be absent from England at a time when my affairs call me thither, but the hopes of being serviceable to the public in concerting proper measures for the operations of the next campaign. You will please to take the first opportunity of acquainting the Duke of Savoy with it, assuring his Royal Highness, that one chief motive of my going is, that I may be the better able to promote his interest in prevailing with the Imperial Court, to put Prince Eugene in a condition to advance to his relief, and that I should be very proud his Royal Highness could honour me with his commands while I am at Court, where I shall probably arrive about the middle of the next month, and reckon to stay 6 or 7 days. You will have earlier notice of our successes in Catalonia and the upper Rhine than we can send you from hence. I am, &c.

To Mr. Hill. MARLBOROUGH.

From the King of Spain to Mr. Hill.

Monsieur Hill, Les nouvelles que nous avons, ne vous seront point désagréables, toutes les places de la Catalogne étants prises ou renduës hormis Roses. C'est un succès au delà de toute espérance; il ne reste qu'a le soutenir, et profiter d'un tel bonheur. Pour me rendre tout a fait content, je ne désire que de recevoir des bonnes nouvelles de votre part, et de sçavoir, que le Duc de Savoye est en état de se soutenir cet hiver.

[1] The celebrated leader of the Camisards.

Je ne doute point que ce ne soit la dernière épreuve de sa fermeté, et que l'année qui vienne il jouira de la gloire de tant de belles actiones, puisque l'Armée navalle sera dans le mois d'Avril dans nos mers, destinée par les alliés pour le soutien de Sa Altesse et de mes intérêts. Pour passer même sur les terres de France, nous manquons seulement de l'argent. Le Roussillion a presque la même inclination que la Catalogne, et dans les Cevennes on attend le moment propre pour recommencer. Vous verrez, par les lettres de my Lord Godolphin, que Crowe a ordre de vous communiquer les intentions de la Cour d'envoier le credit nécessaire à Gennes, et à Livorne; mais cependant nous serons perdus, et nous ne pouvons faire aucun mouvement faute d'argent, tant pour les troupes Hollandoises qu' Angloises. Je vous prie pour cette raison de passer à Gennes et à Livorne, et de soutenir les efforts du Sieur Crowe envers les Consuls des deux nations à Gennes et à Livorne, et de prier tous les Marchands de donner de l'argent sur les billets du Comte de Peterborough. Sans cela tout est arrêté ici. L'Ambassadeur de la Reine a fait la même chose à Lisbonne, et a reçu l'applaudissement, et le remerciment de votre Cour. Je vous recommande l' intérêt public dans cette occasion, et je reconnoitray toujours votre zèle, vous priant d'agir avec vigueur à trouver de quoi soutenir les troupes dans cette extremité. 'A Barcelone, ce 27me d'Octobre, 1705.

CHARLES.[1]

From Prince Liechtenstein to Mr Hill.

Monsieur,

La Frégate, laquelle devoit porter par un exprès de la part du Roy, mon maître, à Sa Altesse Royale, de Savoye, la nouvelle de la prise de Barcelone, et de la reddition de toute la Catalogne, hormis la ville de Roses, aiant été arrêtée jusques à l'heure qu'il est, je ne doute pas que par la voye de France ou d'ailleurs vous sera parvenuë cette agréable nouvelle. Cette raison faisant croire à S. M. C. que l'heureuse expédition de Catalogne sera déjà publique par toute l' Italie, quoique nous l'avons envoyé à personne, elle a jugé d'être hors de propos d'envoier un courier avec une nouvelle qui

[1] Charles III, King of Spain: afterward, Charles VI, Emperor of Germany.

sera de veille date par tout. Je ne m'étens pas sur les particuliarités qui distinguent l'expédition de Catalogne, sachant que le tout vous sera communiqué par my Lord Comte de Peterborough. Nous avons des nouvelles fort agréables du Royaume d'Arragon. Il nous faut que d'un secours de troupes et sur tout d'argent pour nous prevaloir de ces favorables conjunctures, et pour porter nos armes jusques au cœur de l'Espagne. Je n'ai point des nouvelles si après la mort du Comte Aversberg, S. M. I. ait actuellement un autre Ministre à la Cour de Turin. C'est ce qui me fait prendre la liberté de vous prier d'avoir la bonté de présenter la lettre du Roy à S.A.R. en l'assurant en même temps de son inviolable et très parfait attachement à ses intérêts. Vous me feriez grand plaisir si en même temps vous voudriez bien porter mes très humbles et très soumis respects à Sa dite Altesse Royale en lui bien persuadant que je n'ay d'autre ambition plus forte que celle de lui témoigner en toutes sortes d'occasions l'ardent désir de lui rendre mes très obéissans services. J'ay assuré de cette vérité S.A.R. par plusieures lettres que j'ay eu l'honneur de lui écrire de la Haie et de Lisbonne, quoique j'ay raison de croire, qu'elles auront été perduës. La nouvelle qui nous vienne avec la dernière poste de Vienne d'un grand secours marchant, et destiné pour l'Italie, nous a été d'une grandissime consolation. J'espère que la flotte alliée comparoitra à si bonne heure dans la Méditerranée comme on nous en assure pour pousser nos conquêtes et délivrer l'Italie, et sur tout S.A.R. des armes de la France, auxquelles elle s'est opposé avec tant de gloire, et de mérite auprès la cause commune. Je suis, &c.

'*A Monsieur Hill.* LE PRINCE LIECHTENSTEIN.

From the Earl of Peterborough to Mr. Hill.

Barcelona, 28th October, S. V., 1705.

Sir,

Your first letter turned us from Italy; and though my heart and soul have been set upon it ever since, it could never be retrieved. When I writ my last letter to you, I thought the business sure; the sea-officers had, in a council of war, resolved to receive us aboard, and the land-generals had all agreed to quit the almost impossible siege of Barcelona for the more pressing and probable services in Italy. But the

King of Spain (notwithstanding his engagements at Lisbon for Italy, and the assurances he gave his Royal Highness in the letter of which I send you a copy) prevailed so over our salt-water politicians by the solicitations of the Prince of Hesse, and Litestein, that they obstructed the embarking the troops, the King sending them word he was resolved to stay and perish, if we would abandon him, and the siege of Barcelona. But what had our successes here, or any where else, come to, if the Duke of Savoy had been sacrificed, and the war of Italy at an end? It is true our successes here have been beyond hopes and expectations; but not by the measures of those that kept us here, who would have lost our little army, rendered these mine attempts of sea and land contemptible, which I am sure will prove of the consequence I pretended, when rightly managed, for so vain and mad an attempt as the Prince of Hesse always insisted upon could have ended in nothing but ruin, so ignorant he was (though he had been so long in the place) of the proper way of attacking it. How desperate soever it might seem, the only way that could succeed was the attack of Montjoui, which I undertook without the knowledge of the King of Spain, any of his ministers, of the Prince of Hesse, or any of our own officers, for I was weary of doing nothing, and of councils of war, the copy of two of which I send you.

I felt no joy, and had no satisfaction in our successes here, till Mr. Crowe came, and gave us the account of the dispersion of La Feuillade's army, which I believe was occasioned by the great confusion they are in by reason of such a turn here. It is certain, Sir, that if I had two hundred thousand pounds, I could have pushed these beginnings to such a conclusion as would have surprised the world; but for want of money all is at a stand, and the enemy recover hopes, and will make the utmost efforts. That sum, at least should have secured Valencia and Arragon, if it had not carried us to Madrid; or I should have been in a condition to have mastered all Roussillion which is willing to declare for us; and then what work we had made in the Cevennes and Languedoc I leave you to judge. I have received two expresses from thence, and could have increased that flame to the highest degree. To make this more plain, and to shew the absolute necessity of every body's concurring to procure us money, without which all our affairs here will run backwards, give me leave to tell you, that

the King and his whole Court are not masters of one hundred pounds. The Dutch troops were sent out with six weeks' subsistence in Dutch skellins, which nobody would take. The marines, which make so considerable a body of our little troops, are upon no land-establishment, and no pay for them. The government sent after me to Lisbon credit for 5000 pounds in such circumstances, without any directions from England, with the protestations of the Court of Portugal against it. I have ventured upon this stroke, and have supported it with 40 thousand pounds of my own money and credit, brought a King and his whole Court from Lisbon, at my own expence, in the Britannia, and sent the Vice-Roy of Catalonia in the same Britannia likewise, and treated him there as well as I had done the King before. You will wonder how such a thought could come into the head of a reasonable man. It was the desperate circumstance of our affairs that made me see no common measures could retrieve our disappointments elsewhere, and the dangers to which the Duke of Savoy was exposed in Italy, the designs on the Moselle defeated, the Portuguese obstinate in doing nothing, the Duke of Savoy not in a condition to concur with the agreed measures about Toulon,—all this came upon me at Lisbon at the same time. What other expedient under heaven? The wonder is how I could prevail to engage an Austrian Prince to such an attempt. I made it plain to Litestein he should be Vice-Roy of Naples, to the Prince of Hesse, he should be Vice-Roy of Catalonia, and to the King of Spain, he should never be nothing but by embracing this opportunity. The management of Methuen and Galloway, I shall not now enter into. But to get an old minister to draw bills without order, to get a General to part with troops from his own command, are things not easily obtained, and it cost a little too much time to compass. Mr. Methuen advanced 20 thousand pounds for which he had many thanks and compliments from my Lord Treasurer, and an immediate payment, the best compliment upon such an occasion. This and my own stock hath paid the Miquelets, defrayed the charges of the siege, supported the King of Spain, and brought things to the present pass. If I can get the copy of the King's letter to the Queen, I will send it you, it being a very just account of our proceedings here, only too favourable to myself. But now, Sir, in the present ferment in this favourable warmth, we have

been 20 days at a stand, 800 of the enemy's horse that came to us neither formed nor paid, 3000 foot that we might have listed perishing and begging in the streets, an army coming upon the frontiers from the borders of Portugal and Madrid, which, if we could face, I believe the greatest part would come over to us; but those we have already are deserting back to the enemy, and the news of our circumstances and their reception will not be very inviting to others. Notwithstanding all this, with some of the poor troops harassed with a siege, I am going to the frontiers. The country has no money and can raise none but by a Cortes, which requires time. The present is our lucky moment. Judge, Sir, what efforts ought to be made at Genoa and Leghorn. I send you my Lord Treasurer's letter. You will think a hundred thousand pounds a terrible demand: with it, I can do every thing you could wish or desire; without it, I can support nothing. With such a sum I can support our own troops, keep the field the whole winter, and raise and equip six thousand men for the King in a month's time. Pray, Sir, represent this to the Duke of Savoy, and all those who are well-wishers to England. I can do no more but represent it as well I can, and send the ships to be cleaned that may bring us safely the money you can and will send. I am &c. &c.

To Mr. Hill. PETERBOROUGH.

From Messrs. Scudamore and Henshaw to Mr Hill.

Genoa, 5th November, 1705.

Honourable Sir,

This day here is arrived the Portugal-Galley in 14 days from Lisbon, whence the Captain brings very indifferent news for us, saying, that the Portuguese are a crew of treacherous villains; for it seems my Lord Galway, with the forces in those parts, being under Badajoz, the enemy fell upon them, when the English and Dutch resisted all they could, the Portuguese leaving them in the lurch, so that we lost a battery of cannon, and my Lord came off with the loss of an arm, and was in a bad condition: so the campaign there was ended, and the army retired, and General Fagel declared he would no longer militate amongst such people, but that he would return to Holland.

The same Captain says, that in the Straits he met with

—[1] French men-of-war, who had taken a Dutch merchantman bound for the Straits, and that they will do great mischief in that station.

Off Cape de Gatt, the Captain says, he met 18 sail of English; but [we] understand that only five of them were men-of-war; he spoke with a bomb-vessel that was with them, was informed passing by that Barcelona was taken; but the weather being bad they could not stop to get any distinction as to time or else, although [he] thinks [we] need not doubt of its certainty.

No sooner have [we] this news but with haste write it to send Sig. Molinary to forward you. We are with all devotion,

Honourable Sir,

Your obedient servants,

To Mr. Hill. SCUDAMORE & HENSHAW.

From Sir C. Hedges to Mr. Hill.

Whitehall, 9th November, 1705.

Sir,

According to your desire I have sent you your letters of Revocation, which you may make use of sooner or later as it consists most with your convenience. I heartily wish you your health, and a safe return to your own country, after having served it so much to its advantage, and your own honour, in a post of so great importance. I am,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. C. HEDGES.

From Queen Anne to Mr. Hill.

ANNE R.

Trusty and well-beloved, we greet you well. Having been informed, as well by your letters to our principal Secretary of State, as by your friends, of your desire to be recalled from your employment in that Court to attend your own affairs in England, we are graciously pleased to condescend to your request, and accordingly do herewith send you our letters of Revocation, which you are to deliver to that Duke, accompanying them with such expressions of our esteem and

[1] The letter being damaged the number cannot be ascertained.

affection to his person and friendship as you shall judge proper. After which, you shall make all convenient speed to return into our presence, assuring yourself of our favour and gracious acceptance of the service you have rendered us in that Court; and so we bid you farewell. Given at our Court, at St. James's, the fifth day of November, 1705, in the fourth year of our reign.

By her Majesty's command,

Mr. Hill's Revocation. C. HEDGES.

Queen Anne to the Duchess-Dowager of Savoy.

Ma Sœur, Ayant permis au Sieur Hill, mon Envoyé Extraordinaire vers mon Frère, le Duc de Savoye, de retourner ici, Je n'ay pas voulu qu'il partist sans vous donner de nouvelles assurances de la grande estime et de l'affection particulière que J'ay pour vous, dont je seray toujours bien aise de vous donner des marques essentielles dans toutes les occasions. Mon dit Envoyé vous expliquera plus amplement mes sentimens là dessus, au quel je vous prie d'ajouter entière créance et d'être persuadée que je suis,

Ma Sœur,

Votre affectionnée Sœur,

A St. James, ce 9e Novembre, 1705. ANNE R.

From the Duke of Marlborough to Mr. Hill.

Vienna, 18th November, 1705.

Sir,

Since my arrival at Vienna, I have received your several letters of the 2nd, 14th, and 21st instant, and have not been wanting here in my endeavours to continue you in your present tranquility. The Marquis de Prié, I hope, will do me that justice to the Duke of Savoy, having promised to assure his Royal Highness of the zealous attention I have to his interests on all occasions. I have engaged to the merchants here that they shall be reimbursed by the Queen a hundred thousand crowns they are now advancing to Prince Eugene; and as soon as I come to the Hague I hope I may settle the remittance of two hundred thousand crowns more, part for your troops in Piedmont, and the rest for those in Lombardy. It is to be

hoped all this money will be employed for the best of the service, being sensible that if we could once be in a condition to act offensively in Italy, we should soon feel the good effects of it every where else.

I am very sensible of the hard task you have had in these difficult times at Turin, and no less of the great advantage your ministry has been there to the Public, so that it will not be easy to incline her Majesty to admit of your return; but you may be sure I shall be always ready to observe your commands, being, with much truth,

Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. MARLBOROUGH.

From M. Delescheraine to Mr. Hill.

Monsieur,

Je ne saurois me consoler d'être privé de la satifaction de vous dire adieu, et de vous renouveller moi-même les assurances du plus tendre, et du plus solide attachement qui fût jamais; mais puisque cela est sans remède permettez moi de chercher quelque soulagement dans l'espérance que j'ai, que vous me continuerez votre chère et précieuse amitié, et qu'en quelqu' endroit, que votre merite, et les ordres de votre grande Reine vous appellent vous me conserverez toujours un peu de part dans l'honneur de votre souvenir. Vous ne devez pas craindre que de mon côté j'oublie mon meilleur et plus estimable ami. S'il est vrai que la mémoire est dans le cœur vos bontés, votre droiture, vos manières si polies et si honnêtes ont fait une impression sur le mien que rien ne peut effacer.

Je vous envoye la réponse de M. R. à la lettre de la Reine. Vous y trouverez des marques de la confiance que S. A. R. prend en votre zèle, et votre affection que vous ne la lui sauriez témoigner d'une manière plus utile, plus agréable et plus efficace qu'en assurant Sa Majesté des sentimens que vous savez que cette Princesse a pour elle. Je suis chargé de vous écrire de sa part qu'elle a un regret infini de ne vous avoir pas pu dire adieu, ni vous marquer elle même la considération qu'elle aura toute sa vie pour un homme tel que vous dont elle estimoit tant l'approbation. Elle conte que vous lui rendrez là-dessus toute la justice qu'elle doit atten-

dre de ses bonnes intentions et de votre exact discernement. Pour moi Monsieur qui vous étais attaché par le cœur et par tant d'autres motifs jè ne saurois vous exprimer que foiblement combien je suis touché de votre départ et dont je ne puis être dédommagé que par quelques occasions de vous rendre mes très humbles services et de vous persuader que suis effectivement et pour toute ma vie,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

Turin, le 18, 1706. DELESCHERAINE.

Madame Royale of Savoy to Queen Anne.

(Copie.)

Madame, J'ay reçu avec le respect que je dois la lettre dont il a plu à V.M. de m'honorer au sujet du départ de Monsieur Hill, votre Envoyé en cette Cour. Je me flatte, que luy qui a été témoin de ma conduite, et qui connoit parfaitement mes sentimens, pleins de reconnoissance et d'admiration pour V.M. vous en rendra un conte particulier, et m'aidera par ses offices à conserver votre estime, et vos bontés. Ce Ministre, si sage, généralement aimé, et considéré en ce pays, a soutenu bien dignement l'idée qu'on a de votre gouvernement si juste, et si mesuré dans tous ses choix. Je vous supplie encore d' agréer, que je joigne aux assurances qu'il vous donnera de mon zèle, ces protestations sincères de l'attachement, et de la vénération avec laquelle je suis,

Madame,

D. V. M.

La très humble et très affectionnée cousine et servante,

Turin, le 18 1706.

From the Duke of Savoy to Mr. Hill.

Monsieur Hill, Monsieur Chetwynd m'ayant dit que vous luy avez écrit de vous aller joindre pour se retirer avec vous, je n'ay pas jugé à propos qu'il dût encore partir, me paroissant étre du service de la Reine et de celuy de la cause commune que pour tout ce qui peut le regarder il reste icy quelqu'un jusqu'à l'arrivée de la personne que sa Majesté aura destinée à votre place. C'est ce que je luy ay témoigné,

et que j'ay bien voulu vous faire savoir, ne doutant pas que vous n'entriez dans ce sentiment. Je suis véritablement,

Monsieur Hill,

Votre meilleur amy,

'*A Turin, ce 25e Janvier*, 1706. V. AMEDEO.

From the Duke of Savoy to Mr. Hill.

Monsieur Hill, Cette lettre vous sera rendüe par le Sieur Boüer qui vous communiquera de ma part la commission dont je l'a chargé. Je vous prie de vouloir bien l'assister de vos sages directions, et prendre les mesures nécessaires pour la sureté du convoy dont il s'agit, àfin qu'à quelque prix que ce soit cette affaire aye son entière exécution. Vous en connoissez très bien l'importance: le zèle que vous avéz pour les intérêts de la cause commune, et l'affection que vous avez toujours fait parôitre pour tout ce qui me regarde, m' assure que vous n'oublierez rien dans une occasion de cette conséquence, ce qui m'engagera à vous en conserver un souvenir particulier et à être de plus en plus véritablement,

Monsieur Hill,

Votre meilleur amy,

'*A Turin ce 25e Janvier*, 1706. V. AMEDE.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Hague, $\frac{10th}{21st}$ August, 1703.

Sir,

I got ashore late last night at Rotterdam, and I came hither early this morning; but I have not been able to see the Pensioner[1] to day, or the Emperor's minister, who have both appointed me to morrow-morning. I have been to wait on the Queen's minister here; but, by all I can learn from him, I have very little hopes of any success in the commissions with which you were pleased to charge me. I shall be able to speak more plainly and distinctly by the next post, both to yourself and my Lord Nottingham. This is only to give you the earliest notice I can of that zeal and exactness with which I pretend to be, Sir, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Count de la Tour.

'A la Haie, ce 24e d'Août, 1703.

Monsieur,

Je suis venu ici pour régler quelques petites affaires avec Messieurs de l'Amirauté, et je ne sçaurois être en deça de la mer sans avoir envie de renouveller un commerce avec vous, qui m'a été autrefois si plein d'agréments; mais comme je n'ay jamais sçeu ni vous parler, ni vous écrire qu'a cœur ouvert, et avec toute la sincerité imaginable, je dois vous dire que sur les instances que l'Empereur a fait faire à notre Cour, la Reine m'a ordonné de pousser mon chemin jusques à Turin, et de me mettre aux pieds de S. A. R. si elle veut bien me le permettre, je vous prie donc Monsieur de me faire sçavoir les intentions de S. A. R. afin que je ne fasse rien qui pourroit lui déplaire, ni commettre mal à propos la réputation et l'honneur de la Reine, ma Maîtresse. Je crois me mettre en chemin dans trois ou quatre jours pour aller jusques à Francfort, où je souhaiterois fort de recevoir vos ordres, si vous me faites l'honneur de m'écrire vous m'adresserez votre lettre, s'il vous plaît, sous couvert à Monsieur Couvreur, Banquier, à Francfort. J'y feray halte, où je hateray ma marche, selon les avis que vous me donnerez.

[1] See page 2.

Mon zèle et mon ardeur pour le service me feront faire belle diligence s'il est nécessaire, et je n'auray pas beaucoup moins d'empressement pour vous donner de nouvelles assurances de l'attachement inviolable avec lequel je suis, &c.

HILL.

A Monsieur le Comte de la Tour, &c.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Stepney.

Hague, the $\frac{13}{24}$th August, 1703.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you about ten days since, and having some Admiralty-commissions to despatch here, I was in hopes I might receive your answer to my letter here. Now I have seen the postscript of your letter of the 11th to Mr. Stanhope, in which you advise him to hasten me forward, or I shall come too late; I will, therefore, make all the haste I can possibly; but I much fear I shall come either too soon, or too late. I am to consult the Pensioner here, and am to get a colleague from hence, if I can, or powers from the States to say something for them. The very day that I can obtain my despatches to that purpose here, I will set out for Francfort, where I desire to receive some letter from you, by which I may govern myself; you will please to send such letter under cover to the Queen's minister there, and desire him to keep it till I call for it.

I am going, Sir, to Turin with as much zeal and alacrity as the importance of the service does require; but, indeed, I can find no manner of encouragement any where, but from your letters. I find the Count de Goes[1] knows nothing of the matter, but what he has from Mr. Stanhope; none of the foreign ministers here have any knowledge of the Duke of Savoy's good will towards us, as I can find. An honest Genevois who lives here, who is, and has been long, a kind of agent for that Court, assures me, that he knows nothing. The Pensioner as yet has told me nothing. The Partisans of France and Spain say, those Courts are secure of the Duke. Some letters from Vienna by the last post say, that Prince shews less inclination to come into the grand alliance than was expected from him; and it is natural to believe that the unhappy situation of the Emperor's affairs in Italy and Tyrol may check his zeal. However, Sir, notwithstanding these

[1] The Emperor's minister at the Hague.

and all other considerations, I am not discouraged from pursuing my journey as fast as I can, in hopes of meeting good news from you at Francfort. I am, Sir, &c.

To Mr. Stepney. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, the $\frac{13}{24}$th August, 1703.

My Lord,

I made all the haste I could to this place, and got audience of the Pensioner so soon as I could. I exposed my commissions to him in order. I complained of their delays in not sending their ships to Spithead, so soon as was promised; and likewise of their sending only twelve instead of thirty six; his answers in substance were, that if they had been tardy this year, we had been so at other times, and that we had little to reproach each the other with. As to the number of thirty six ships which we expected, he confessed there was some such convention made with Monsieur D'Allemonde;[1] but that the States had never given any such order to their Admiralties. I saw I should get nothing by complaints, but excuses; and, therefore, I pressed the sending some of their ships now into the channel, or to join Rear-Admiral Dilkes: this he said was not necessary, because the enemies have no force in these seas. I then pressed that Monsieur Callenbourg, who lies now with ten ships at Schovenelt, might go and lie before Dunkirk and Ostend; to this he consented, and I am assured, that orders are actually sent him to that purpose. I found Monsieur Vanderdussen off the Meuse, with eight sail, and they are all sent northwards to look after those Dunkirkers who have fallen foul upon their fisheries, and to protect their Greenland fishery, their own trade and ours. This is all I could get from him on this subject. He then asked, when our ships would be ready for Portugal, and how many? I told him all diligence was used in that matter. He then said, he hoped we should have 20 sail to be joined by their 12. I could not promise twenty sail, because we had so far exceeded our proportion in the Mediterranean, that I hoped they would not insist so nicely now upon our exact quota; of which I believe it will be necessary to give some orders to Mr. Stanhope.

[1] Dutch Admiral.

As to the business of Portugal we had a great deal of talk; but he always concluded, the States would do their duty, and perform what the treaty obliged them to; but he was certain they could not, nor would not, do more. I insisted that the Queen was obliged to no more; but that her Majesty and her ministers were very unwilling to lose the advantages of that treaty, which seemed to open a way to attack our enemies on their weakest side. He owned that we might hope for great advantages by that treaty; but that their Provinces thought it was a hard bargain, and would scarce be brought up to ratify it, as it was; and that he was sure they would never be persuaded to exceed their own third-part for no consideration whatsoever. I asked, if he could propose no expedients; he knew none, besides the Queen's generosity in supplying the Emperor's deficiency. This I assured him was none; because I knew nobody at London who was likely to advise her Majesty to charge her people farther than she was obliged by the treaty, unless the States by an equal concurrence would justify such counsel. He then said we must endeavour to prevail with the Emperor to do more, or prevail with the King of Portugal to be satisfied with what England and Holland are obliged to, and are willing to do. I believe the first of these propositions would be to no purpose, and the latter would, at present, be very dangerous. I then told him that the Queen's goodness was such, and the zeal of her ministers so great, that they were willing to furnish 4000 men for the Emperor, provided they should be taken from the 50,000 men which her Majesty now pays here, or at least 2000 of these four must be taken hence, the other 2000 being possibly to be drawn from her own dominions; but I added, that if the Queen did furnish these 4000 men for the Emperor, she expected the States would divide with her the Emperor's share of the subsidies, artillery, &c: which are to be furnished to Portugal. The Pensioner has promised to speak to the deputies of this matter, and, likewise, to write to my Lord Duke of Marlborough about it, and to give me an answer so soon as he can. Now I must observe to your Lordship, that it seems to me, as if these Gentlemen here, though they are fond enough of the Portugal treaty, are willing to engage that King, and to leave the Emperor's share as a deficiency between those two Princes: but what they desire more is, that the Queen should bear two-thirds of the

whole, and they, one-third, which was the proportion in the last war. If this cannot be, they hope the Queen will furnish her own share, and one-half of the Emperor's share. They will honestly furnish their own part, and then they will leave one-sixth part as a deficiency not worth the King of Portugal's attention. I must also observe, that the indolence and tranquility of the Portuguese minister here would make one believe he was quite ignorant, or quite careless of this deficiency in the execution of the treaty, which gives your Lordships, at the Cockpit, so much occupation. He is making tents, calashes, sumpter-cloths, and rich equipages here for his master, which are fit for the fast[1] of a Persian Monarch. I must also observe to your Lordship, that these Gentlemen here do by no means believe that the Queen or themselves are obliged by any act of Mr. Methuen, or Monsieur Schonenberg, to supply the Emperor's part; or that the Emperor, or new King of Spain, are obliged by any act of the Admirante, or Count Wallesteyn, to repay what the Queen and States should come to furnish on the Emperor's account. I do find also that these Gentlemen have little consideration for any promises or engagements which the Emperor and King of Spain can give them, if they should advance one half of the Emperor's share; and yet I find by discoursing with the Count de Goes, that the Emperor and King of Spain will be very unwilling to give the Queen and States any such engagements. I find the Pensioner does expect somebody should be employed by the Queen, and by them, to adjust and to settle the time and place for embarking the troops which are to go to Portugal, and where they are to debark, and what number of ships may be thought necessary to winter in Portugal, and even what number of ships may be necessary to be employed there the next summer.

I come now to my own business of Savoy, upon which I have consulted the Pensioner according to my instructions. I find he knows little of it, but in very general terms, which were communicated to the States by the Count de Goes. They have no intimation of the Duke of Savoy's intentions from himself, or from any body else. He fears the ill success of this campaign may have altered the good dispositions of his Royal Highness, if he had any. It is not very probable that the Duke will declare himself, if all communication be-

[1] *Query*, taste.

tween the Empire and Italy comes to be cut off, as it seems to be by the junction of the French and Bavarians in Tyrol, of which the letters from France and Brabant make mention. However it should be, the Pensioner thinks I ought not to go forward till we see a little more day. I shall come too late for to get any thing done this campaign; I shall be soon enough, if any thing is to be done against next spring. I do not find they are desirous to send any body with me; they will trust me to promise for them; but not to engage for more than one-third of the subsidies which the Duke may demand, and not to exceed what was paid to his Royal Highness in the last war. I have assured the Pensioner that I am ready to be gone, so soon as ever he shall tell me that it is time, or that I receive such advice from London. I have wrote to Monsieur de la Tour, as I was directed at the Cockpit, and I have sent my letter to him under cover of an honest man here, who is a kind of agent for Savoy; and I have promised to go and meet his answer as far as Francfort. I heartily beg your Lordship's pardon for so long a letter. I will not be oft so troublesome, though I shall be always, with great zeal and duty, My Lord, &c.

The Earl of Nottingham. HILL.[1]

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Stepney.

Hague, the $\frac{16}{27}$th August, 1703.

Sir,

I thank you for the honour of your letter of the 15th, which found me here, and shall keep me here till farther orders, notwithstanding any thing I told you in the letter which I wrote to you the last post. The design of my journey, and my instructions, were entirely founded upon your relations, as I believe; and since it was never known at London what subsidies his Royal Highness would demand, my instructions reach no farther than those which were paid by England and Holland in the last war. As to the proportions to be observed now between us two, I was to settle that before I went hence. I was extremely mortified, as you may imagine, to hear of my intended journey to Turin from Garroway's, and the Postman, within two or three days after I knew it myself. I did think such an unseasonable publication of it so fatal

[1] Mr. Hill wrote the same post to Sir Charles Hedges, and referred him to Lord Nottingham's letter *ut supra*.

and prejudiciable to the service, that I believed the best thing I could do was to stay at home, and give the lie to the Gazetteers; but I was to obey. Now, by the return of Count Aversberg, the scene of this business will lie at Vienna, and therefore I shall this night write to London, to desire that you may have my powers and instructions transmitted to you, who may carry on this service with that secrecy which is necessary. One thing does trouble me, which is, that I did write in general terms to the Count de la Tour, by direction of the Cabinet-council: it was, that, upon some encouragement that we had received from Vienna, the Queen had ordered me to go to Turin, when I had done my business here, if his Royal Highness would please to give me leave, &c. I hope the little man is discreet, and I am sure he dares not be otherwise, and that is my consolation. You will give me leave now to hope, that every post will bring me some letters from you to this place, where I will stay, by the grace of God, till you let me know what Count D'Aversberg brings home with him.

I must redress an error in my last letter to you. I now find that the Count de Goes, by order, gave in a memorial here, demanding the concurrence of the States to the treaty with Savoy, to which, I think, the States have yet given no answer. I am afraid I shall not be able to tell you by this post how the Pensioner does relish the propositions which his Royal Highness does make to us; by the next post I hope I may do it. In the mean time I am, Sir, &c.

To Mr. Stepney. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Stepney.

Hague, $\frac{17}{28}$th August, 1703.

Sir,

I have seen the Pensioner since I wrote my last to you, and I find he is a little surprised at the large subsidies which the Duke of Savoy demands. He does not well understand how the Count D'Aversberg could undertake for England and Holland, nor how far he has engaged us. I hope you will send a copy hither of the treaty so soon as Count D'Aversberg is arrived, for I shall not obtain the least promise here till they see the treaty. I am, &c.

To Mr. Stepney. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, $\frac{17}{28}$th August, 1703.

My Lord,

I have done myself the honour to write to your Lordship as oft as I could, since I am here, and have little more to say. I have no hopes of getting my expedient accepted. The Queen may furnish what she pleases towards the Emperor's deficiencies in the Portugal treaty. The Pensioner has convinced me that nothing can be done here, but by consent of all the Provinces; and that consent is not to be expected. Upon my complaints that they did offer nothing here to answer the Queen's generosity and zeal for the execution of a treaty from which so much might be expected, one brought me word from the assembly of the States, it was Monsieur D'Odyke, that whatever advances the Queen shall make for the Emperor's account, they shall be first reimbursed to her Majesty by the Emperor and the King of Spain, before that they will pretend any thing; this is all I have been yet able to get, which I think is less than nothing. Your Lordship will see by Mr. Stepney's last despatches, that I am not to look towards Turin, for fear of alarming every body, and disturbing the good intentions of his Royal Highness; and since the scene of that treaty is now removed to Vienna, I must needs think that my powers and instructions might be transferred to Mr. Stepney, who may treat more privately there than any one that goes on purpose. You will please to observe, that the Duke of Savoy demands a good deal more than we paid in the last war; but my orders and instructions go no farther than what we paid then. You will also please to suppose that the States will be very unwilling to pay more than one third in Savoy, though nothing has yet been said on this subject. I am here now at leisure expecting your Lordship's farther orders. I do not yet find that they do think of equipping more than 12 ships for the expedition to Portugal, hoping that England will furnish 20. When I complain that all our ships are in the Mediterranean, they look upon that to be our business, and the care of our own trade; so that all the success and honour Sir Cloudesley brings home must be yours; they pretend to none of it. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Hague, the $\frac{17}{28}$th August, 1703.

My Lord,

I was very sorry I had not the honour to receive your Lordship's immediate commands before I came from England. Their Lordships, at the Cockpit, were pleased to bid me be gone, and the letter which your Lordship did me the honour to send to me by Mr. Boyle seemed to give me leave to obey them. I am sorry to say, that I find no reason for my making so much haste; for as to the business of Portugal, six of the Provinces which have ratified that treaty, and the States-General, who have since resolved to ratify it, have declared that it is upon condition, that they shall not be obliged to exceed the terms of the treaty, or to furnish more than their own third. I proposed to them the generous expedient with which I was charged, that the Queen would furnish the Emperor's 4000 men, upon condition that they would bear half the charge of the subsidies which the Emperor should pay, of which the Queen would bear the other half. I do not find that they will accept of these offers. I can get nothing from them but this—*ultra posse non est obligatio.* I must add, my Lord, that they have almost convinced me of their inability to do much more than they now do. I must also observe a great change in their ways of doing business here: when the Stadtholder had convinced the Pensioner a thing was done. The Pensioner takes nothing now upon himself, and there is great difficulty to convince seven Provinces, who are obliged to the King of France for all the union that is left in these countries.

As to my errand to Turin, I am stopped here short, by Mr. Stepney's last despatches; by which I find that Count D' Aversberg has, with mighty mystery and secrecy, concluded a treaty with the Duke of Savoy, by which the Queen and the States are to pay all the subsidies which they paid the last war to that Prince, and my instructions do go no farther; but his Royal Highness demands 100,000 crowns more in hand, and 30,000 crowns more per month, which the Spaniards promised at least, or did pay to him the last war. As to these two last articles I have no orders, and, I believe, the States will certainly expect that the Queen should bear two-thirds of this burthen also, as well as in Portugal. I am not

to advise, my Lord, but to receive orders: yet I see so little hopes of obtaining any thing more of these Gentlemen than what the treaty does oblige them to, that I could wish Mr. Stanhope or myself were ordered to say, that the Queen will go no farther than the said treaty obliges her. The Imperialists and Portuguese will then come in to help to solicit here, who look on at present with wonderful indifference; and the Queen can go, at last, as far as she pleases towards supplying the Emperor's deficiencies.

The business of Huy is over; which has added new laurels to the Duke of Marlborough. I find his Grace is in wonderful veneration with the people, and with the magistrates: but he has such a set of Generals with him as would make any other man as mad as themselves. My Lord Duke sent his proposals hither yesterday for attacking the lines: the States came to a resolution therein the last night, which is kept secret; but by their discourses I believe they are in the same mind with their Generals, to hazard nothing.

I must observe to your Lordship, that this Province of Holland, which is the only one now in order, is a good deal aggrieved by the prohibition of trade and correspondence, and take it very unkindly that we did force them into it. They say the same thing was attempted in Queen Elizabeth's time; but that they could not bear it.

I am now at leisure; expecting new orders, if I am to go any farther. I do not think it will be for the Prince's service, or for my own reputation, to keep a chain empty at the Admiralty,[1] and I desire your Lordship will do with me just as you think best, for I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer.[2] HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Stepney.

Hague, the $\frac{20\text{th}}{31\text{st}}$ August, 1703.

Sir,

I should not have thought fit to trouble you to day, if Mr. Stanhope had not communicated to me the copy of your last letter to Mr. Secretary Hedges, by which I perceive that Count D'Aversberg was not come back to you, nor so successful yet as he seemed to think he should be, by the air of his

[1] Mr. Hill, was, at this time, one of the Lords of the Admiralty.

[2] The Earl of Godolphin

former letters to you. I stick fast here according to your advice to me: and indeed according to my first instructions, which were to move and to act in concert with the Pensioner, and he is of opinion that the States will come to no resolution, until they see the treaty which Count D'Aversberg has made. I must therefore once more desire you to send a copy of the said treaty to us here, if the Count does make any, upon which I may hope to work here with the Pensioner, and obtain their concurrence with her Majesty, which they will signify by a minister of their own, or by the Queen's ministers. But, by what I can perceive, though they should consent to let the Queen's ministers engage them into the treaty, they will send a minister of their own to look after the execution of it. I do expect new orders from London, and fresh advices from you with equal impatience. I think no body is to blame for divulging the mystery with which his Royal Highness would treat with Count D'Aversberg but the Imperialists; for when you sent word to Mr. Secretary, that the Count's journey to Turin was published at Vienna, the same post brought that account hither and to London as a piece of common news. I wish we knew for certain here when the Archduke might be expected. We are very forward in our preparations in England for his service, and Sir George Rooke will be here with his Royal Sovereign by the last of this month, our style; and that ship is fitting up for the reception of such a royal passenger. I have not been able to give any assistance to Mr. Stanhope in prevailing with the States to supply one-half of the Emperor's quota-part to the King of Portugal on condition that the Queen should furnish the other half, though I had power, and did offer to them that the Queen would furnish the whole 4000 men for the Emperor, if they would only bear half the burden of the subsidies which are to be paid to Portugal. They are resolved to abide by the letter of the treaty, and furnish only one-third of the whole, leaving to the Queen's generosity to supply as much more as she pleases. I am, &c.

To Mr. Stepney. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Hague, the $\frac{20th}{31st}$ August, 1703.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to my Lord Notting-

ham the last post, supposing that he would be at the Cockpit, and that you would be gone to the Bath. I must now repeat to you what I told his Lordship, that I find no manner of disposition here towards a compliance with the Queen's proposition, which was, that her Majesty would furnish the whole 4000 men to Portugal for the Emperor, on condition that they would bear one-half of the subsidies which are to be paid to that King. The Pensioner assured and convinced me, that nothing of this kind could be done, but by the consent of all their Provinces; that it would be a negotiation of six months to bring the Provinces to such a consent, and that he believed after six months' labour it would have no success. I have seen several of the Deputies of the States, who all speak the same language. They will by no means understand that there passed any act at Lisbon, by which they are obliged to supply any part of the Emperor's quota. They will honestly perform the treaty which the Provinces and the States-General have ratified, only on condition, that they shall bear only one-third of the whole burden. They say, they can, and that they will, do no more; and I am humbly of opinion that they will take it unkindly if they are pressed much farther, and that all our importunities will avail nothing. I do not yet find that they have their funds ready for what the treaty does oblige them to, nor have they yet named the officers and regiments which are to serve in Portugal, nor the time and place when and where they are to embark; nor the ships of war which are to go to Lisbon They have resolved to send twelve great ships; but, I believe, some of them must be of Callenbourg's squadron, which is now cruizing towards Dunkirk, or of Vanderdussen's squadron, which is gone northwards. If it is thought fit to send me orders and instructions, I will endeavour to settle all these matters here with the Pensioner and the Deputies of the Admiralties, whilst I lie idle here; but in that case you must please to let me know, what ships, and what troops the Queen will have ready, and where, and when they will be at their rendezvous; and if any ships, and how many, will be left at Lisbon this winter. I should also know when and where our transport-ships will come, which are to carry the Queen's regiments from this country, and which way the rest of our troops are to go from England or Ireland. I find the Pensioner is also desirous to know what fleets will be necessary to act on the

coasts of Portugal the next year, and by what time they must be ready. You will find by Mr. Stepney's last letter, that I am stopped here, and I fear the Count D'Aversberg has not been too cunning for the Duke of Savoy.

I must observe to you, that these people are wonderfully satisfied with our Queen, and with her administration, and a little industry will not put them out of conceit with her ministry. My Lord Marlborough is in great esteem and veneration with every body in spite of their own Generals, who do not easily obey him, though they cannot bear one another. The weak side from this government is from the divisions of the Provinces about the choice of their magistrates and deputies, who bring the passions of their parties to the Assemblies here; and for the want of a due subordination in their Generals, and their incompatibility one with another. There is one thing done here, which will be of some prejudice to our trade, and, I believe, it is too late to prevent it. They have ordered that all the troops which are in their pay shall be clothed with the manufactures of this country, though our English kerseys, which they used formerly, are cheaper here and better: and they will issue no money for the payment of any clothing, but of their own manufacture.

Upon the taking of Huy the great question at the army was, what was next to be done? My Lord Marlborough and all his officers were for attacking the lines: the Dutch Generals thought there was too much hazard in that design; each party sent their reasons hither, and desired the determination of the States, who seemed fearful of the success of so bold an enterprise; yet I am now assured, that they have left the matter wholly to the decision of the Generals and those Deputies who are in the camp. My Lord Marlborough is now marched towards Leuwe, and nearer to the lines; and we may expect some news of a very vigorous and decisive action very quickly.

The letters of the 17th inst. are just come in from London; but I have not any commands from you or my Lord Nottingham, though I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, the 4th September, 1703, N. S.

My Lord,

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's

letter of the 20th August, and to give the plainest answers that I can to what you are pleased to command me. I desire your Lordship will excuse me if I chide and mangle no more about the 24 ships which were wanting to make up the number of 36, after I had told these Gentlemen, that I feared they would hear more of it perhaps about three months hence, when our Provinces do meet, than they do desire who sent me now to press the performance of Monsieur D'Allemonde's engagement. I have only assured the Pensioner that there is no way to set this matter right now, but by furnishing at least 22 ships for the Portugal expedition, which we are forced to insist upon, because so many of the Queen's ships are gone to the Mediterranean, &c. His answer was, that the States have ordered the equipping of 12 ships only for this service; but he has promised me that he will endeavour to get some more; though he assures me, that they have no less than 40 ships now northwards, to protect their trade and their fisheries from the Dunkirkers, or to look after those rogues. They are very angry here, that those Corsairs were not kept in this summer, as they were the last; or that they were not pursued every where, when they did get out. I must now observe to your Lordship, that if any thing hinders these people from sending more than 12 ships to Lisbon, it is because they have not funds to keep their ships out so late; and for the same reason they will be desirous to leave as few ships as they can this winter in Portugal. As to any hopes or expectation of getting these people to contribute any thing towards the Emperor's deficiency in the Portuguese treaty, I can only repeat what I said to your Lordship the $\frac{17}{28}$th past, with this addition, that I have since then made one attack more upon the Pensioner, but cannot find the least encouragement either from him or any body else that I could speak to. I am now persuaded that they have not their funds ready for the execution of their own third, to which the treaty does oblige them; but I am also persuaded, that they will provide for this very honestly, though not so soon as you could wish. Their ships of war and their transports will not be ready, as I believe, this month: their generals and the troops which are to embark are not yet declared. They seem to be unwilling to hire their transport-ships till they have just immediate use of them; and they cannot spare their troops till the campaign is worn out. They will also be unwilling to

part with the Queen's troops till that time, either those which are in the field or those which are in the garrison. We are likewise dancing in a circle here. The Archduke will not stir from Vienna, say the Imperialists, till all things are ready here; and they will make no despatch here, till they see that his Highness is actually set out from thence; though they tell us, in both places, that they are very busy about the necessary preparations. The Envoy of Portugal begins now to bestir himself here, and says, his master does not desire the Archduke's company, unless the whole treaty is made good. However, I dare venture to assure your Lordship, that it is a loss of time and labour to think of getting men and money from Germany; or of getting more from these Provinces than their own natural share. When the affairs are once engaged in Portugal, either good or bad success there may oblige the States to more vigorous resolutions. I think at present they are not so sanguine upon this expedition as our people in England are; either because their genius and temper are less lively and less fond of new and bold designs; or because they are less accustomed to carry on a war at that distance and pay their troops by bills of exchange; or because they are fearful of weakening themselves at home, whilst so powerful an enemy is upon their frontiers; or because they do not look upon this Portugal enterprise as their own design, being drawn into it, as they say sometimes, in a great measure, out of complaisance to the Queen. However, my Lord, so long as I do stay here, I shall assist Mr. Stanhope all I can possibly, in pressing for a greater number of ships of war than they first designed; and for a quicker despatch of their troops and transport-ships than they yet seem willing to make. I do also hope your transport-ships will not come till the 4 regiments of the Queen's troops will have orders to embark; for which I hope your Lordship has wrote to my Lord Duke of Marlborough. I send your Lordship here a decree, or a resolution made in the Council of State at Madrid, which the Portuguese call a declaration of war, because the terms of it are very singular.

I must now beg leave to assure your Lordship, that I would not have stayed here so long as to write this letter, after you had told me that it was thought *proper* and *necessary* for me to proceed upon my journey, if you had told me so, after the letter which Mr. Stepney wrote to me the 15th past, and that

which he wrote to Mr. Secretary Hedges of the 18th, were seen at the Cockpit. I hear nothing from Mr. Stepney by the last post from Vienna; but by other letters I perceive, that Count D'Aversberg had not yet been so much too cunning for the Duke of Savoy, as he hoped to be. You will also please to remember, that my instructions are to advise with the Pensioner about my journey, and he does think it is yet too soon to stir that way, since the Duke of Savoy is not at liberty till November, and since we have no manner of intimation of that Duke's intentions but from Count D' Aversberg. You will likewise observe at what price his Royal Highness sets up his friendship, without account, as I can yet learn, what he will do for the common cause; and therefore you will please to give me new orders how far I may bid, since his demands exceed my instructions. I doubt much whether these Gentlemen here will come up to pay one-third of what that Duke demands. However, the moment after I receive your Lordship's next orders to proceed that way I shall be going. The States of Holland have already settled here the state of the war for the next year, to which they hope the other Provinces will conform. I am told that a better provision is made for the Admiralty than was the last two years. I am told that Count Wratislaw is coming this way, and that he is to go to England again to prepare all things here and there for the Archduke. I did write in general terms to the little Count de la Tour so soon as I came on this side the water, as your Lordships were pleased to direct me at the Cockpit, and I hope to receive an answer from him, which will give me great light into what I am to do; but I will not stay for his answer here, if your Lordship bids me go forward. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Hague, the $\frac{\text{24th August,}}{\text{4th September,}}$ 1703.

Sir,

I have received the honour of your letter of the 19th, and can only thank you for it, having no more to do for your service here, unless you give me some new commands. I was well enough convinced for myself, when I had the honour to write to you last; but I resolved to attack the Pensioner once

more, to magnify the Queen's generosity, and the zeal of her ministers, and the cheerful consent of the whole council towards supplying the Emperor's deficiency in the Portuguese treaty; and therefore it would certainly be expected in England, that they should bear one-fourth part of the Emperor's burden, since the Queen would bear the other three parts. All the answer I could get, was, it is impossible, the Provinces will do no more, they can do no more, than comply with the terms of the treaty. I shall give a full account of this to my Lord Nottingham; because I believe you will have all I can say from Mr. Stanhope. I send you here a declaration of the King of Spain, which the Portuguese call a declaration of war, because the style is very extraordinary, and what I dare not venture to translate. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Duke of Marlborough.

Hague, the 5th September, 1703, N. S.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Grace's letter of the 30th past, and though I have pressed the Pensioner according to my first instructions, and the repeated orders which I have received, as far as I could see any hopes, that the States would supply one-fourth of the Emperor's deficiency in the Portugal treaty, in which case the Queen would supply the other three-parts, yet I am told it is impossible to prevail any thing with the Provinces, who neither can nor will do any thing but what the treaty does oblige them to. I have given this account to my Lord Treasurer and to my Lord Nottingham, and shall trouble these Gentlemen here no more upon that subject. The Portuguese ministers will be more troublesome; for they say, both here and at London, that they do not desire the Archduke should come, unless the whole treaty be executed. However, the King of Spain will help us out in this matter, by a haughty and arrogant declaration which he has made against Portugal, which must now throw itself into the arms of its new allies. I am now labouring to get about twenty ships of war here for the Portuguese expedition; though the States have ordered the equipping of only twelve. I must be more earnest in this matter; because the States have furnished only twelve ships this year to join with ours

instead of 36, which will give occasion to somebody or other to make a noise in the winter; and because there are not above twelve or fifteen ships at hand in England which can be employed on this service. My last letters from England say, Sir George Rooke will be here in a week, and the transport-ships, which are to carry over your Grace's four batallions, are to be at Williamstadt in two or three days. I am sorry for it, because I believe your Grace cannot yet spare those four batallions, and because the Archduke will scarce be here this month yet, if he does come. I think, my Lord, there should be no manner of difficulty in reclaiming the fifty soldiers now at Courtray, for which we will allow so many seamen, because the French owe us above 400 or 500 seamen, and these soldiers will be clear gain to us, since they have not seamen enough of ours to pay for those which we have sent, or which we shall send over. Your Grace may please to send to Monsieur de Villeroy[1] that we will be honestly accountable for so many French seamen, as he sends you soldiers. The French must send a list of their names to Dunkirk, to the Commissary there, and Mr. Cardonnel must send a duplicate to the Queen's Commissioners at London. I am, &c.

To the Duke of Marlborough. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, the $\frac{\text{27th August,}}{\text{7th September,}}$ 1703.

My Lord,

I have not the honour of any commands from your Lordship since my last letter of the 4th inst. I have once more pressed the Pensioner to try how far the States would concur with her Majesty to make the treaty with Portugal effectual; since the Imperialists can furnish nothing, and since the Portuguese demand a just execution of the treaty. I gave my proposition in writing to the Pensioner, of which I send your Lordship a copy here enclosed, and I shall give a copy of it to the ministers of the Emperor and of Portugal, and leave them to judge of the Queen's generosity, and to solicit these Gentlemen.

I have been with the Pensioner, and also with the Deputies of the Admiralties here, about settling the number of ships

[1] One of the commanders of the French forces.

which are necessary to convoy the Archduke to Lisbon. The Pensioner told me that they would equip 18 ships for this service, that they could furnish no more, and that, of these 18, they could not depend upon more than 15. The Deputies told me, afterwards, that they could not be assured of more than 12. As to the time when these very 12 would be ready with the transport-ships &c., the Deputies told me they would hasten all they could; but they could not promise they should be ready till about the middle of October, N.S. which I do the rather believe, because the troops will not be ready sooner. They cannot yet leave the field, nor the towns where they are in garrison; and when they do, some time will be necessary for making the recruits, clothings, tents, and equipages. I send your Lordship here some propositions from the Deputies of the Admiralties, to which they desire the concurrence of the Queen's ministers and Admiralty. I made no difficulty in consenting, as far as I had power, to every thing they ask; it is but promising as they do, and performing like them.

I send your Lordship here enclosed the copy of another letter from Count D'Aversberg to Mr. Stepney, which I have communicated to the Pensioner. I expect your Lordship's commands after you have seen this, and the other letters from Vienna, which were lately transmitted to you. If you say that it is necessary and proper, that I proceed either to Turin or Vienna, I am gone upon the least order; but the Pensioner, whom you bad me consult, thinks we should stay till that treaty is actually signed; and they will say nothing to that matter here till they see the treaty and know what they shall have for their money. I have seen some letters from Paris which say the Court of France is very much alarmed and apprehensive that the Duke of Savoy will engage himself with the allies. I have seen other letters from thence, which say, that Duke has renewed his treaty with France, and has obtained an augmentation of his subsidies from thence. I think, my Lord, all the great designs on these frontiers are ended for this year. My Lord Duke of Marlborough has had more trouble with our own Generals than with the enemies. His Grace was very eager and earnest upon a bold and brave design of attacking the French in their lines; the opposition of the Generals on the left was so great and obstinate, that the States here, to whom both sides appealed, would not determine any thing; and whilst the

debate lasted the opportunity was lost, because the enemies had time to fortify their lines, and to bring in their detachments. We have news here that they are arming again at Toulon three or four of their biggest ships; that nine ships are out of Dunkirk, and that some ships from Brest and St. Malo have fallen in with the Greenland fishery and destroyed about a dozen of them. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham HILL.

Proposition given in by Mr. Hill to the Pensioner.[1]

La Reine d'Angleterre offre à Messeigneurs les Etats-Generaux de fournir au Roy de Portugal 4 mille hommes pour le tiers de L'Empereur, et de payer encore la moitié des subsides que S.M.I. devoit payer selon le Traité, à condition que Messeigneurs les Etats fournissent l'autre moitié.

Ainsi en divisant tout le tiers de L'Empereur en quatre parties, S.M.B., en fournira trois à condition que Messeigneurs les Etats en fournissent la quatrième.

A la Haie, ce 7e Septembre, 1703.

Propositions from the Admiralties of the States, to which they desire the concurrence of England.

That a strong fleet may winter in the ports of Portugal, which may be ready to act on the coasts of Spain, or in the Mediterranean, very early in the spring, or even in the winter:

That the States will have 18 ships of the line-of-battle ready for this service, if the Queen will furnish 28 or 30 of her ships. To make up their 18 they will send 12 ships hence with the Archduke, and order Monsieur D'Allemonde to leave 6 of

[1] This and the two following papers were sent to Lord Nottingham with the previous letter.

the ships, which are now with him, at Lisbon:

That provisions of victuals and navy-stores for one year for these ships may be sent to Lisbon, which they will send by the same convoy, which carries the Archduke:

That the Queen would order her ships, which convoy the Archduke, to winter at Lisbon, to be made up to 30 sail by some of Sir Cloudesley's squadron:

That it be resolved, so soon as may be, where and in what manner this fleet may act, either early in the spring, or in the winter.

Copy of a letter from Count D'Aversberg to Mr. Stepney.

Turin, l' 11e Août, 1703.

"Nous signions le traité ce soir ou demain sans faute sur le pied que je vous ay mandé par ma lettre du 28e du passé, il s'agit du secret, et je vous prie de le recommander aussi chez vous, étant ainsi que la France en sçait déja beaucoup de particularités et le Marquis de Torçy en a déja parlé fortement à L'Ambassadeur de Savoye qui est à Paris, et il est à craindre que la France abimera plutôt ce Prince que nous ne soyons en état de le secourir, ni luy à nous aider. J'espère de vous revoir bientôt: toutes les Gazettes sont pleines que Monsieur Hill

I desire no such thing, let Mr. Hill come hither if he have any such powers.

doit venir ici ; mais je vous ay déja dit que vous deviez faire que l'on envoye *le pleinpouvoir à Vienne* aussi bien que celui de Hollande ; et le Duc de Savoye y envoyera le sien aussi pour conclurre avec nous autres, si l'on trouve à propos."

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Stepney.

Hague, the 8th September, 1703.

Sir,

I take the advantage of this express, which the Count de Goes is sending to Vienna, to write to you. Here I stay, according to your advice, expecting farther light from you, and farther orders from England. I hope you have received by this time several of my letters; at least one which I wrote to you before I left England. I have seen all which you have wrote, and the copies of all you have sent Mr. Stanhope. The Count D'Aversberg will pardon me if I don't think him too cunning for the Duke of Savoy, until I see that he has got fast hold of him. I must also advise you, in confidence, that the Count may promise and vow like a good godfather more, perhaps, than will be honestly performed; at least by the States here, who are very good husbands. I have referred the consideration of all your relations to the Cockpit, and have represented to them, that my powers and instructions might be easily transferred to you, as Count D'Aversberg seems to desire, if there is nothing to do but to subscribe the bargain that Count has made for us. I cannot yet tell what they will say to this at London; but I can tell you, that here they are so disposed, they will bargain a little, and expect a pennyworth for a penny.

We are very impatient here for the arrival of your Archduke, I mean we English. Our men-of-war and our transports are all ready; and if I had not stopped Sir G. Rooke, because nothing is yet so ready here, I believe our fleet would have been all here this week past. You know the difficulty that happens in the execution of the Portugal-treaty, because the Emperor cannot furnish his third-part. I had orders to

do all I could here, and I send you here a copy of a *short memorial*[1] which I left with the Pensioner, which will shew you how zealous and eager the Queen and her ministers are upon this matter. I do suppose that you are pressing the departure of the Archduke as much as you can. I can only tell you, that this people here will never be ready till they are certain, that his Highness is come from Vienna. The letters of Tuesday last, from London, are not yet arrived here. I think the campaign here is at an end; my Lord Marlborough did all he could possibly to attack the enemies in their lines; all his Generals on the left were of a contrary opinion, and whilst the debate lasted the opportunity was lost. I must tell you, that I have seen some letters from Paris, which say, that the Duke of Savoy has renewed his engagements with France, and has obtained an augmentation of his subsidies from thence. I shall suspend my belief till we receive your next letters. I am, &c.

To Mr. Stepney. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Stepney.

Hague, the 11th September, 1703, N. S.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you before I came from London, and have been pretty diligent, ever since I came over, in writing to you. My last to you was sent by an express, which the Count de Goes was despatching to Vienna. I hope some of my letters have found their way to you. I must now tell you, that, in obedience to your advice in your letter of the 15th August, I not only stopped here, but I also wrote to London desiring that the powers which I had might be transferred to you, and I have accordingly received orders, by the last post, to stay here, and to leave you to sign the treaty, pursuant to the instructions you will receive by the same post. I was commanded to attend Mr. Stanhope to the Pensioner in order to prevail with the States here to give the same orders to Monsieur Bruyninx to join with you, and to sign for his masters. But we did not find the same forwardness and alacrity, which are in our own ministry. They would see a little more here, and would have a copy of the treaty,

[1] The same as in the letter to the Earl of Nottingham: see page 258.

&c., as I have told you in my former letters. We are very impatient till we hear Count D'Aversberg is come back to you, with the ensigns of success and honour, which we expect he should bring with him. In the mean time I am ordered here to solicit, all I can, the expedition of the ships and troops, &c., against the arrival of the Archduke, or King of Spain. They seem now to be in earnest and busy about this matter; but the departure of the Archduke from Vienna would still give them new vigour. Our ships in England are so ready, that if I had not wrote to Sir George Rooke to let him know, that he needed not come to consume the Queen's provisions on these coasts, I do believe he would be just now at the Goree. I believe I shall go to the army, now I am at liberty for a few days, and stay long enough on this side the water to receive the honour of your commands, and to give you all the assurances I can, that I am, &c.

To Mr. Stepney. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, the 11th September, 1703, N. S.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 27th August, and shall observe every line in it, in order to a perfect obedience. I am very glad to find my delay here sanctified now, by the Queen's commands to go no farther till farther orders. I have sent to Francfort to get those letters forwarded to me here, which I thought I might meet there from the Count de la Tour, and if I receive any I will give your Lordship an account of them, and expect your Lordship's farther commands upon them. I have been to wait upon the Pensioner in company with Mr. Stanhope, who had orders from Mr. Secretary Hedges to the same purpose, to inform him, that the Queen has been pleased to send her commands to Mr. Stepney, at Vienna, to sign and ratify what the Count D'Aversberg shall have promised from her Majesty; and we desired, that the like orders might be sent to the minister of the States now residing at Vienna. To make this more agreeable to him, we owned, that the Queen was willing to pay two-thirds of all the subsidies which the Duke of Savoy requires. All the answer we could get from the Pensioner was, that he would communicate the Queen's plea-

sure to those whom it was necessary to consult; but he and they could not think fit to give any such orders to their minister at Vienna, to sign a treaty which they have not seen. He says the States will be fearful of engaging in a guarantee, till they see the extent of it, and, likewise, of paying such large subsidies till they see to what the Duke of Savoy is obliged. Mr. Stanhope and I made the best reply we could, and I sent advice hereof to Mr. Stepney last night, as I had done likewise before, that he would send a copy of the treaty hither so soon as he could possibly, to people who will expect a pennyworth for their penny.

I send your Lordship here enclosed an abstract of the subsidies which were paid to Savoy in the last war, as well as I could find it; though I do not give it to you for an infallible guide. I can add nothing to what I have already told your Lordship concerning the resolutions of the States, to bear only their own third in the Portugal-treaty; though I do believe, that when they send so many battalions as are necessary, they must necessarily exceed the number of four thousand men, more or less. I think they are now in earnest here about their preparations for the Portugal-expedition; and, so soon as the campaign is ended, they will make what despatch they can. I shall expect an answer from your Lordship, or from the Prince's Council, to the propositions which I sent in my last, according to the project which I began to make here with the deputies of the Admiralties. Those Gentlemen are now gone from hence; but, at their return, I shall endeavour to settle with them the whole number of ships, which the Queen and the States shall furnish to act together the next year, as well on the coasts of Spain, as in the channel, and off of Dunkirk. The great losses which they have suffered this year from those pirates, and the rage which the people here are in against them, and against their own Admiralties for it, will dispose them to come into any good measures for the future.

I must observe to your Lordship, that the additional 10,000 men, which the Queen entertained here this last summer, did not give these people so much satisfaction, as the condition which the House of Commons tacked to it did give them vexation: and I am apt to believe, that they will think, and perhaps do think, of opening their commerce and correspondencies again the 1st of June next, whatever it should cost

them. Your Lordship will have observed, that these Admiralties propose to send stores and provisions for the 18 ships, which are to winter in Portugal, for 12 months, and, therefore, they have sent to demand storehouses or magazines from the King of Portugal.

I think I have nothing to do here this week or ten days, and, therefore, I design to go to the Camp to wait on our Captain-General, and to visit my old comrades. I shall return hither to meet the Deputies of the Admiralties, and to receive your Lordship's commands, which are very sacred to me, who am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

		crowns.
ANNO 1691.	It was agreed to pay to the Duke of Savoy per month, ...	30,000
	England paid 20,000	
	Holland paid 10,000——30,000.	
ANNO 1692.	The subsidies were increased to per month,	36,000
	England paid 24,000	
	Holland paid 12,000——36,000.	
ANNO 1693.	The subsidies were increased to per month,	48,000
	England paid 32,000	
	Holland paid 16,000——48,000.	

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Hague, 11th September, 1703. N. S.

Sir,

I have received the honour of your letter, of the 15th past, and supposing, as you do, that the Count D'Aversberg is returned to Vienna with his treaty in his pocket, I went with Mr. Stanhope to the Pensioner, and we endeavoured to prevail with him, that the ministers of the States at the Emperor's Court might have such powers as the Queen has been pleased to give to Mr. Stepney, to sign that treaty for as much as it concerns her Majesty and the States. That we might more easily prevail with him, we assured him, that the Queen would pay two-thirds of all the subsidies which the Duke of Savoy does require, according to the terms of the said treaty The answer we got was, that he would communicate our proposition to some of the Deputies of the States, but he believed they would not be easily persuaded

to give such powers to Monsieur Hamel Bruyninx, until they saw the treaty, and how far they were to be engaged by it, as well with regard to the guarantee required from them, as the subsidies demanded, and they likewise desire to know what the Duke of Savoy is obliged to on his side. I gave Mr. Stepney an account of this the last night, and desired him, as I had done twice before, to send a copy of the treaty down hither so soon as is possible, without which I had perceived before that no resolution would be taken here, where there is nobody now who dares take so much upon him. I shall need say no more upon this subject now, because Mr. Stanhope will give you an account of our conference. I shall expect an answer to my letter from the Count de la Tour, and if I do receive any, I shall send it to you, in order to receive your farther commands.

I have a week before me now, in which I have nothing to do, and, therefore, I resolve to go and wait upon our Captain-General, and visit some of my old comrades. I send you here a map of the French lines, which were such an invincible barrier to our Generals on the left. I have marked with my pen the place where my Lord Duke would so fain have attacked them. I send you also the pictures of two heroes in Tyrol, who have done the Emperor so good service. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

P. S. Lieut. General Fagel is named to command the Dutch troops in Portugal; the rest of the officers and troops will be named to morrow.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, the 16th October, 1703.

My Lord,

I am now going to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter, of the 16th past; but as to the question which you are pleased to ask about my going to Venice, I leave it to your Lordship to answer for me, since you are pleased to say you can. I am persuaded that the answer you will make, whatever it is, will be better than any that I can make myself. I would only beg leave to observe to your Lordship, that the Venetians may possibly expect an Ambassador, and if some saucy young Excellence should come to

be sent thither over my head it would break my heart.

I am sorry that I can say nothing to night to your Lordship concerning the proposals of Monsieur le Marquis de Miremont, and the informations which Monsieur Flotard has brought to your Lordship; but the Pensioner has been so very ill these ten days, and is yet so ill, that nobody can speak to him of business. I will watch him close, and get to him as soon as I can, and then give your Lordship an account of his opinion in that matter. I must take notice to your Lordship that your agents were not so discreet as they might have been; for, at their return to you, they discovered themselves in this town so far, that almost every body knew where they had been, and that they were going back to your Lordship. I fear some of their brethren may pay for it in France, and that the next messenger you send may find more difficulties in the way.

We have now got the King of Spain within sight of us almost, and are afraid of his being here too soon. Neither the ships, nor troops, nor the officers are ready yet; and though it is not yet resolved to defray his Majesty here, yet it is feared they must do it, and they are desirous he should stay here as little a while as is possible. They have sent Deputies to meet his Majesty on the borders of the States' dominions in the name of the States-General; and the Province of Holland will send others to meet him on their limits; but no provision is yet made for his entertainment, either at Hounslerdyke, or in the old Court here; in one of which places his Majesty is to be lodged by the consent of the King of Prussia. I received directions from Mr. Warre, in a letter from him of the 17th, to assist the agent here of the transport-office, in providing shipping for the transporting of 2000 men from hence to Portugal. I have spoken with the agent, who says, he has ships well provided for the transport of 4000 men effective, and I fear the 4 battalions, with the regiment of dragoons, will not make 3000 effective men from hence, since many of their officers and all their recruits are to be taken up in England. If any more of the Queen's forces are to be shipped hence, it is more than I yet hear of; but I have assured the agent of the transports, that I will serve him all I can.

I sent your Lordship, by the last post, a copy of a letter which I received from Monsieur Constantin, &c. I have

heard no more since from that Gentleman; but I am told the French in Lombardy have broke all the Savoy-regiments which were in their service, and have incorporated them as recruits into the French regiments. If this be done with the Duke of Savoy's consent, Count D'Aversberg is more abused still: if without such consent, his Royal Highness will be more desirous, but less able, to take a vigorous resolution, especially whilst all our affairs go down hill in Germany. Hæc fundus nostri calamitas. I am. &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Hague, 16th October, 1703.

Sir,

I have received the honour of your letter, of the 20th past, with the enclosed account of a voyage into France, and the proposals, in order to make use of those discoveries, with the Queen's commands to communicate the whole to the Pensioner, and to report his opinion thereon to you. This is all I can say to you to night, for the Pensioner has been these last ten days, and is still, so ill, that nobody can speak to him. I will endeavour to get at him so soon as I can possibly, and obey your commands with all privacy imaginable. I cannot but observe to you upon this occasion, with great concern, I was going to say with great indignation, that almost every thing which we do, or which we are to do, is so far discovered, that the common newsmongers get hold of it, and guess at the rest. I must also own the receipt of your letter, of the 27th, which does refer me to those you were pleased to write to me the 2nd and 5th of September, to all which I can say little for want of the Pensioner; for though he does not take upon him to do much, yet nobody can do without him. I think every body is now in earnest to get the King of Spain over to you as soon as may be; but I believe nothing will be ready till about the end of this month S.N., and I do not think we can expect more than 15 ships of war from the States at most, unless Monsieur D'Allemonde should come to Spithead before the King of Spain goes thence.

I need say no more, at present, concerning the business of Savoy, because it is at a full stop; but I believe it never would have been broken off, for want of these Gentlemen's

consent, if they could hope to get a pennyworth for their penny. So soon as I can have spoken to the Pensioner, I will have the honour to write to you again, which will give me a new occasion of assuring you of the zeal and devotion with which I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, $\frac{19}{8}$th October, 1703.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship the last post, and have little occasion to trouble you again to night, because I have not yet been able to speak to the Pensioner. However, he is now so well recovered, that I hope to see him before the next post-day.

What I told your Lordship in my last concerning the French having disarmed all the troops of Savoy, which were with them in the Mantuan, and incorporating them into the French regiments, appears now to be true, and with such circumstances as will persuade you, that the Duke of Savoy was not in the plot. However, I hear no more from Monsieur Constantin, since his letter, of the 22nd September, of which I sent your Lordship a copy. I shall press the Pensioner now again all I can possibly, and endeavour to get my Lord Duke of Marlborough to intercede with him, that somebody may have powers to engage the States-General for their share in the treaty, in case the Duke of Savoy does conclude one with the Emperor. I shall be more earnest in this matter, because there seems to be no other way, but through Savoy, to assist the poor Camisards.

The King of Spain is now within sight, as it were, and can be here in two days, if it were necessary; but things will not be ready here for his embarkation, as the ministers say, till the end of the month, S. N. and I have good reason to fear they will require eight or ten days more. I find they have once more reduced the ships of war, which are to convoy the King of Spain, to 12 or 13, which is done upon an opinion that the Count de Thoulouse will not come out of Toulon. I hear nothing yet of Sir G. Rooke, or of the new transports for the two thousand additional men: and, if they are not upon these

coasts to morrow, I shall not expect them till the wind changes. My Lord Portland intends to go for London next week, and my Lord Albemarle will be your neighbour this winter also. We expect my Lord Marlborough here the $\frac{12}{23}$rd; but, I believe, he will not stay above three or four days, if the wind be fair. I am. &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Stepney.

Hague, 23rd October, 1703.

Sir,

Since the last which I had the honour to write to you, I have received your letters, of the 15th and 19th September, which followed me to Limburg, and did not overtake me till Friday last. I must also acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst., with a copy of Count D'Aversberg's letter to you, of the 22nd past. I am sorry to see he would lay so much stress on my letter to Monsieur de la Tour. He saw my letter—I wrote but one—and he knows well, that I wrote much less to La Tour than what was long before in all the Gazettes, and public advices from Turin, and Paris. Nay I told La Tour much less than he and every body must needs know before. Count D'Aversberg knows well, and you will easily believe, I hope, that I would discover no mysteries to the little man, or so much as name Count D'Aversberg to him, or his being at Turin, though that was known every where so well from the very day after his departure from Vienna, that the French were not to learn it from my letter to La Tour, if I had been silly enough to mention it, which was written the 24th August, and received about the 20th September. You will find by the Count's letter, of the 18th August, that the Duke of Savoy had complained that their negotiations were public, for which you then blamed the Count himself. You will find by the Count's own letters, I believe, that Monsieur de Torcy had expostulated with the Count de Vernon, &c., at Paris, before my harmless letter got to La Tour. You will also find that the Duke of Savoy was seized with a panic fear, and had *perdu la tramontane* before my poor letter was got from the Hague. I am sorry to trouble you with these reflections, because I do not think you can possibly imagine that the

King of France gave orders to seize upon the Savoy-troops the 29th September, because Count D'Aversberg wrote to you the 22nd a wrong representation of my letter to Monsieur de la Tour. Whatever the Count says, I desire you will think better of his Royal Highness, of his little minister, and of me too, than to think we have done any thing to spoil the Count's good conduct. I have not yet seen the Pensioner since his sickness, but I have an hour appointed me this afternoon, and I shall say all I can to him, in hopes to get some declaration, how far they will engage in the assistance of the Duke of Savoy, if Count D'Aversberg does conclude any thing with him. I hope that business is now come to a crisis; and I am not so very sorry, as you seem to be, at the seizing of the Savoy-troops. Perhaps your Count will soon envy La Tour and me the honour of having contributed any thing to that action. I am, &c.

To Mr. Stepney. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, the $\frac{23rd}{12th}$ October, 1703.

My Lord,

I have now seen the Pensioner and communicated to him, and to nobody else, the proposal which the Marquis de Miremont has made for the assistance of the Cevennois. I must say, that the good man has all the zeal and mettle imaginable for the relief of those poor people, and for annoying the enemy also by the means of those religious hussars. He is not yet willing to give his judgment upon that scheme; though he seems to think it is less plausible than it will be, when the Duke of Savoy shall be in the interests of the Queen and her allies. To speak more plainly, he says, he fears it will not be practicable till then. However, I have left the proposal with him, and he has promised to think of it, and to tell me his thoughts of it very quickly. He laments, as every body must, our want of secrecy and discretion, by which two poor men have been already discovered there, and broken upon the wheel. In general he assured me that the Queen and her ministers may depend upon the concurrence of the States in this affair for one-third of the expence; and, to shew, that they are in earnest, he desires the Queen

would advance 200,000 gilders, and he will cause to be paid 100,000 more into any safe hands, which may serve for a fund to begin the work, and he thinks the sooner you do begin the better.

I know not what to say, or what to think, yet of the Duke of Savoy. The news is confirmed every way, that the French have seized his troops in Lombardy, the end of the last month. It is also reported, that his Royal Highness has set guards upon the French and Spanish ministers, which are at Turin, and done some other feats by way of reprisals; yet I dare not say he is in earnest, because he does not call out for help from the Queen and her allies, as he naturally should do, and for which he has had time enough, since the day his troops were seized. However, I took this occasion to press the Pensioner again, that powers might be sent to Vienna, to the minister of the States there, to join with Mr. Stepney in signing such a treaty as the Count D'Aversberg may have projected upon the foot which has been communicated to him. This he will by no means think of; because the consent of all the Provinces must be required for this single act, as much as for the ratification of the treaty, and they will, he says, be more difficult in giving such an implicit consent, than in concurring with their obligations in the treaty when they see what it is: he added also, that if the advices, which we have now from Lombardy, are true, we may treat in the known forms, by sending ministers to Turin, or receiving the Duke's ministers here. All I could obtain, was, that orders should be sent to the minister of the States at Vienna to declare, that his masters are ready and desirous to come into the alliance with the Duke of Savoy, as the Emperor and the Queen do desire. I did tell the Pensioner to day, my Lord, what I told him in August, at my first arrival, viz; that if the Queen did furnish four thousand men for the Emperor, she would be obliged to take two thousand of them from hence. I added, that the transport-ships were coming for the said two thousand men, and would certainly be at Williamstadt with the first westerly wind. The poor man expressed great sorrow and commotion at this declaration, and hopes the Queen will not take so many of her forces from hence. I find the King of Spain has more people, horses, and baggage than can well go aboard the yachts and the men-of-war, as you will see by the list, which I hope to send your Lordship. If they are to

go to Portugal, I fear we must find some conveniency for them. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, $\frac{26}{15}$th October, 1703.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship last post; I have little to say to night. I cannot but take notice again, that the violence with which the French treated the Duke of Savoy is confirmed from Paris, and from all places. Yet I do not find that his Royal Highness does call out for help from the Emperor, or from any of his allies: nor do I yet learn that his Royal Highness has communicated this incident to his guest, or his prisoner, Count D'Aversberg; at least the Count has not given any account thereof, as I can learn, to his correspondents, though he has had time enough. I must also observe, that the Count promised, in his letter to me of the 22nd September, that he would soon write to me again, &c.; yet I hear nothing from him, though I took what care I could to let him know that I expected his orders here de pié ferme. I am led into these reflections by a letter which a foreign minister here shewed me from Paris; which says the Duke of Savoy had given new orders to his ambassador there to renew his applications at that Court. Your Lordship will judge of this conduct better than I can.

The deputies of the Admiralty here are in a good deal of pain, because they have no letters from Allemonde, or any body in his fleet, since they went from the rock of Lisbon. These Gentlemen, to whom the treaty of Portugal has been communicated in order to draw up instructions for the Vice-Admiral Callenbourg, are offended at two articles of the treaty; and will tie up their officers from receiving any orders, but such as shall be approved by a majority of votes at a council of war, where all the English and Dutch flags shall assist. We expect my Lord Duke of Marlborough here to morrow, and the King of Spain on Sunday or Monday. His Majesty will be obliged to stay here, I believe, a fortnight before all things are ready. We have no letters from London since those of the $\frac{16}{5}$th inst.; nor do I hear any thing yet of Sir George Rooke and his squadron upon these coasts. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Stepney.

Hague, $\frac{30}{19}$th October, 1703.

Sir,

I have not the honour of any letter from you since the 10th instant. Since that time the whole scene of affairs in Savoy is quite altered. What Count D'Aversberg, addresse, or what my correspondence with Monsieur de la Tour, would not do, *volvenda dies in attulit ultro.* His Royal Highness does now call out aloud for help. Besides what he sends by the Count de Tarin to Vienna, the same Count left letters with Mr. Aglionby for the Queen, the States, and the Duke of Marlborough. I stay here to receive her Majesty's orders what I am now to do. I did press the Pensioner again, the last week, very importunately to get such orders, and powers, and instructions for Monsieur Bruyninx, as you required in your letter to me, of the 10th. All I could obtain was the letter which was sent to the said Monsieur Bruyninx by the last post. It is now his business to send a copy of the treaty to his masters, so soon as he can possibly. I am confident there will be no difficulty here, unless it be upon the thirty thousand crowns per month, which are to be paid now more than England and Holland paid the last war. I fear these Gentlemen will hesitate upon that article, especially since his Royal Highness has stayed till he wants our help, as much as we his. Whilst I do stay here expecting the Queen's commands, I shall be glad to receive yours, and I shall employ this interval as well as I can for his Royal Highness's service, and endeavour to get a minister sent from hence to Turin, who may act in concert with the Queen's. Sir George Rooke is here, and the officers of the Green-cloth, ready to receive the King of Spain; and, if the wind proves fair about ten days hence, I reckon they may sail for Spithead. I am, &c.

To Mr. Stepney. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, $\frac{30}{19}$th October, 1703.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 12th. The letters from London, of the 8th, are not yet

come, and it is believed, that the packet-boat, which should have brought them, is carried to Ostend. What your Lordship says, you *wrote lately to the Duke of Marlborough* concerning the two thousand men to be furnished for Portugal out of the Queen's troops which are now here, should have come, perhaps, in that packet-boat, for his Grace has not received any orders about them. I have communicated to his Grace what your Lordship is pleased to say to me upon that subject, as I had done before to the Pensioner. I told your Lordship, in my last, that the Pensioner seemed a good deal afflicted at the taking away of these two thousand men. He is not less mortified now, that Sir George Rooke has let him know, that he has brought the transport-ships for those troops, and the States will send orders to Monsieur Vryberge to solicit at the Cockpit the revocation of those orders. I ventured to say, that the Queen could replace these two battalions, if she does take them hence now, before the spring, though she cannot furnish so many men any other way for the Portugal expedition, because they do insinuate here, that this diminution of the Queen's forces in this country is contrary to the treaty of our alliance lately concluded with this state. I must beg the Duke of Savoy's pardon, my Lord, and yours too, if I did suspect his Royal Highness's sincerity. He has at last declared his good intentions for the Queen, and her allies, in the most brave and vigorous manner imaginable, as your Lordship will see by his own letters to her Majesty. He has declared war upon France, has owned our new King of Spain, and has done all he can possibly to put himself in a posture of defence. He calls out for help now, as if his house was on fire. He has sent a minister to Vienna, and is about sending one to London; and Count D'Aversberg sends word, that he shall soon appear in public at Turin. I did take this occasion to press the Pensioner again, that full powers might be sent to Vienna, to the minister of the States there, to sign the treaty which Mr. Stepney has power to sign. He still assures me this cannot be, because the Provinces must see how far they are to be engaged; and it is easy, he says, to send a copy of the treaty from Vienna now it is there.

I fear these people will at last make some difficulty in coming up to the thirty thousand crowns per month which the King of Spain did pay to the Duke of Savoy in the last war, and which his Royal Highness does expect now from the

Queen and the States. I believe they will make no difficulty in paying what they did pay there during the last war. I did also press the Pensioner to come to a resolution upon Monsieur de Miremont's proposition for assisting the Cevennois; but I could not get any determinative answer from him to day. He stands firm to his proposal of venturing 100,000, if her Majesty will put 200,000 gilders to them, and when these 300,000 are ready, they may be employed on this service, as the Queen and the States shall please to direct. I shall be in expectation of your Lordship's further commands before I can think of stirring from hence, according to her Majesty's pleasure, which was signified to me, the 25th August, by Mr. Secretary Hedges. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Count D'Aversberg.

'A la Haie, ce 2e Novembre, 1703.

Monsieur,

Je ne me suis pas empressé de vous remercier de la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 22e du mois de Septembre puisque vous me desiez que je devois encore attendre de vos lettres qui devroient suivre celle la de bien près: et plus encore, parceque je ne sçavois pas votre addresse. Je me suis contenté donc de demeurer ici en repos, en attendant de vos nouvelles, et les ordres de S. A. R. nous venons de voir présentement le dénoüement de votre affaire, et nous voyons avec indignation de quelle manière le Roy de France prétend traiter un Prince souverain. J'ai veu les lettres que son A. R. a écrites ici aux Etats, et au Duc de Marlborough, et j'attens ici avec impatience les ordres et les instructions que l'on me donnera de Londres sur celle que S. A. R. a écrite à la Reine. Je suis sur qu'on y courera avec ardeur au secours d'un Prince qui est trop exposé à l'ennemi commun, qui est aussi cruel qu'il est insolent. On vient de prendre ici aux Etats de Hollande des résolutions assez vigoreuses, lesquelles seront suivies sans doute des autres Provinces. Je travaille ici pour avoir quelqu'un avec moi de la part des Etats-Généraux, en cas que je reçois des ordres pour aller à Turin. Si j'en reçois, comme je les attens au premier jour, je feray belle diligence pour me rendre

à mon poste, quisque j'ay le cœur plein de zèle pour les intérêts de la cause commune, et pour le service de S. A. R. Je seray bien aise de vous trouver encore à Turin à mon arrivée, pour vous marquer avec quel zèle je suis, &c.

'A Comte D'Aversberg. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, 2nd November, 1703. N.S.

My Lord,

I have not the honour of any commands from your Lordship since the 12th of the last month, and I have little to add to what I did write to your Lordship the last post. I send you the enclosed copies of what the King of France and his ministers have said of our Duke of Savoy; because the style is pretty extraordinary. I am here now only expecting the Queen's commands, and your Lordship's instructions what I am to do. I am desired to send the enclosed project to your Lordship, of sending our dispersed protestant brethren into the valleys of Savoy, and I must observe to you, that, since the declaration of the Duke of Savoy, all our projects here run more in favour of the Vaudois than of the Cevennois, though they have a relation one to the other. I must now confess, that I have a short project of my own, which is, if the Queen sends me to Turin, I would call upon Monsieur Arnaud in the Wirtemberg, and endeavour to set him at the head of 5 or 600 of his hussars, with whom he might march into the valleys of Lucern, or Prajelas, and leave the rest to follow. I shall want nothing for this, but orders from your Lordship, and my Lord Treasurer. I will make as good a bargain as I can with Monsieur Arnaud, and I think we may reasonably deduct from the subsidies which the Queen pays to the Duke of Savoy all that which shall be paid to Monsieur Arnaud. I have been an earnest solicitor here for the Duke of Savoy for fear he should be ruined, before we can come to his help, and so we lose him before we find him. The States-General have desired the Deputies of all the Provinces to send to their Principals for powers to consent to the succours which the Duke of Savoy does desire from them. This is the first step which they have made, and they seem very desirous to go forward.

The King of Spain will be here, I believe, in an hour, and

would be willing to embark for England to morrow if he could. I am ashamed to find, that after all my solicitations and reproaches, the Dutch are more ready than we. There are but four of the Queen's frigates come yet, and two of them must go away with my Lord Duke of Marlborough. The two which remain will not suffice to carry over the King of Spain's baggage, and family; wherefore I hope your Lordship will quicken the sending over the other two frigates which Sir Geo. Rooke expected. They have letters here from Monsieur Allemonde, of the 10th October, N. S., off of Leghorn, when the fleet was coming home. I am told the French are fitting out some ships at Toulon, for the transporting of some troops to Spain, or to Italy. I have given to Sir Geo. Rooke an abstract of Monsieur Callenbourg's instructions who is to command the Dutch ships at Lisbon. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, 3rd November, 1703, N.S.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship the last night. So soon as I had sent away my letters, the English post came in, which brought the letter, of the 19th, with which your Lordship is pleased to honour me. I am not able to make any just answer to that letter now; because I have not been able to see the Pensioner; and, indeed, I must say, it is not just the same Pensioner we had here six years ago. He will not take any thing upon himself now; and his health does not allow him to act with so much vigour as he used to do. However, I will follow him close. I will let him know, that the Queen's 200,000 gilders are ready; and so they are, since my Lord Treasurer has authorized me to take up so much here, which I will do in such sums only, and on such terms, as may be cheapest to the Queen, and only at such times as it may be employed. I will endeavour to settle with the Pensioner the properest ways of laying out these 300,000 gilders, and hope to give you his scheme of it by the next post. I must own that I am tired here with projects and projectors, who make war upon paper. I have more mind to try what General Arnaud will do, who must execute his own designs.

I will send to Mr. Sadler, and prepare for the transportation of the King of Spain's horses, if it is possible. I fear the Dutch ships will not receive any of his train, and, therefore, I hope the two other frigates, which Sir George Rooke expects, will be hastened over to Helvoetsluys. I will get Sir George Rooke to help me, and, if it is possible, we will settle here the number of ships for the next year's service, and the dispositions of them, as far as can be judged reasonable. I expect, with some impatience, your Lordship's orders, and her Majesty's commands, upon the letters which went hence by the last Tuesday's packet. I am, &c., &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Aglionby.

Hague, November 6th, 1703.

Sir,

I wrote to you the last post; and since then I have received the honour of your letter, of the 27th October, with the copy of Monsieur Mellerade's speech, for which I thank you. I am still here, as I told you in my last, expecting orders and instructions to go forward. Your letters of the 17th, and the Duke of Savoy's to the Queen, would not get from the Briel till yesterday. The Pensioner has desired me to write to you, because it will require time to send you such orders from London, to beseech you to bestir yourself with the Swiss and Grisons, as much as is possible, in favour of the Duke of Savoy, to which purpose he sends his orders to Monsieur Valkoneer. If there are any refugees, or Vaudois, about you, who are willing to go into the service of the Duke of Savoy, pray give them all the encouragement you can possibly; and if the Duke does not pay them, the Queen will; if the Queen does not, I will. I think we cannot do too much for his Royal Highness. I wish we may do enough, and do it in time. Our King of Spain is now here, and we are very busy in getting all things ready for his embarcation.

Our letters from Vienna, of the 24th, say nothing of Count Tarin, or of the treaty which we supposed he carried to Vienna. I wish Count Tarin, whom I love sincerely, and, therefore, I hope he is my friend, had sent us a copy of the treaty which I suppose Monsieur Constantin has signed; it would have saved some time. I hope our little friend is wise

and stout enough to come with zeal and mettle into the measures which his master has taken; though, perhaps, he did not advise him to those measures. I have never heard but once from Constantin, though he told me I should hear from him again. I did write to him from hence, so soon as I could get his address. I should be glad to hear from you at Francfort; for I believe I shall be going hence by the time you receive this letter. If there are any hopes of engaging the Swiss to do any thing in favour of the Duke of Savoy you will please to let it be known. I will scramble towards you so soon as I have any orders. I am, &c.

To Mr. Aglionby. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, 6th November, 1703. N.S.

My Lord,

I did own the receipt of your Lordship's letter, of the 19th past, by the last post. I must now make the best answer I can to it. I have directed Mr. Sadler to hire a large English fly-boat, which we found at Rotterdam, which was willing to go to Portugal, and we design to embark on her the King of Spain's horses, about forty old coaches or post waggons, and as much of the heavy baggage as we can, and as many of the servants as we can. The rest we shall distribute on board the yachts and men-of-war. I have laboured to hinder them from buying horses here, and so, I hope, we shall be troubled only with six to Spithead: the King has no more yet. We leave all the transport-ships for the troops; for they can by no means fill their ships from hence to Spithead: yet when the regiments come to be recruited and sent to Portugal they will fill their ships. We shall send you two battalions more than were at first intended, viz., Leigh, and Barrimore: these two battalions do not indeed make up 2000 men; but the whole number of the troops which the Queen does send make up 8000 men, according to the list which I send you here enclosed. I must take notice that Leigh's battalion is very thin, and wants above 300 men. I see nothing which can hinder all the Queen's troops to be actually on board, and ready to sail, this day sevennight, if the King and his convoy were ready. I say the convoy, because Sir Geo. Rooke has but three ships and two small frigates with him. My

Lord Duke of Marlborough must have two of them, at least, with him. Then Sir G. Rooke will have three left, to which we shall add three from the Maese, which we are sure of, and two from Zealand, which we cannot depend upon. This is certainly too weak a guard for a King of Spain and such a number of transports; and, therefore, it is most earnestly desired and expected that two or three more of the Queen's frigates may come over to Helvoetsluys to join the convoy. There are indeed eight Dutch ships-of-war more from the Texel, but they go away directly from thence to Spithead with the troops which embark at the Texel, and are not to join the yachts and our transports which go out of the Goree. We have agreed, Sir G. Rooke and myself, with the Admiralties, that the Queen will have twelve ships to winter at Lisbon, and will send eighteen more to be there in January or February for the common service. The Dutch will leave thirteen of their ships there, which go with the King from Spithead, and if Allemonde comes to Spithead, before the King sails thence, he will find orders in Monsieur Vryberge's hands to send six more of his squadron, with two frigates, along with the King, if they have time to victual, or to follow the King so soon as they can. Sir G. Rooke and myself have endeavoured all we could to settle the number of ships, which should be thought necessary for the next year's service; but the Deputies of the Admiralty would not come to any resolution with us, upon a pretence that they have not authority, nor can have it, during the recess of the States of Holland. Indeed it is Holland which does, and which must, furnish almost all the ships we are to expect: most of the other Provinces will be deficient. The Deputies of the Admiralty are very willing to enter into any measures with us for the blocking up the Dunkirkers next summer, and for carrying on our trade by joint convoys as much as may be; and I expect the scheme, which the Prince's Council will prepare for this purpose, to which they say they will readily consent.

The States have wrote, as I am told, to Monsieur Schonenberg, that he may assist Mr. Methuen in soliciting the King of Portugal to be easy in the execution of the 19th and 20th articles of the treaty, if your Lordship pleases to send any orders to Lisbon about that matter. I cannot say so much as I would concerning the proposal of the Marquis de Miremont; but I find the Pensioner dares not promise any

thing towards the raising and maintaining 8 or 9000 men for the relief of our brethren in the Cevennes, unless the Duke of Savoy will pay them out of the subsidies which the Queen and the States are like to pay to his Royal Highness. He is very desirous to spend the three hundred thousand gilders, which I mentioned to you in my former, for encouraging and sending forward as many Vaudois and Refugees as will go into the valleys of Piedmont. We are now assured that about 700 of these are ready in Switzerland, and about Geneva, and I have ventured to assure the Pensioner, that for every pistole, which he thinks fit to give for this service,I will give two, as far as the Queen's two hundred thousand gilders will go. I am endeavouring to make the same bargain with General Arnaud, and the Pensioner has promised to advance one-third of what is necessary to send him forward. The States have already answered the Duke of Savoy's letter, and have given him great assurances of their good-will and readiness to assist his Royal Highness. I hope the Queen will make haste, at least to answer his letter, and I expect what commands her Majesty will please to give me. It would have been well, I think, if a copy of what Count D'Aversberg has promised and vowed for the Queen and the States had been sent hither, at least it is so thought here. The last letters from Vienna say nothing of it, nor of the arrival there of his Royal Highness's minister. The States have wrote to their minister in Switzerland to try, if those people or the Grisons may be brought to do any thing in favour of the Duke of Savoy, whose dominions are their barrier. They have also wrote to Vienna, to urge this occasion of pressing the Venetians to enter into the common interests now they may do it with more safety than they could do, before the Duke of Savoy had declared. My Lord Duke of Marlborough has had his audience of the King of Spain, and has taken leave of his Majesty also. The King gave his Grace, at Dusseldorp, a sword set with diamonds, worth above £2000, and his Majesty has given his Grace, at parting, his picture set with diamonds. We have all made our Court to his Majesty, who is very good and gracious to every body with an air of gravity and softness, which becomes him very well. I should be glad to see some more Spaniards about him. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Aglionby.

Hague, November 9th, 1703.

Sir,

I received last night the honour of your two letters, of the 31st October, and I thank you for them both. I am sorry to tell you, that I have yet no orders to go towards you. I should, I believe, have set forwards upon your summons and encouragement, if I had not been ordered to stay here, some time since, until I received the Queen's commands. I may tell you that Constantin first, and Mr. Stepney, caused me to be stopped here, and [I] got powers to be sent to Mr. Stepney, at Vienna, to sign what the fat Count should promise and vow for the Queen, and the States. Mr. Stanhope and myself did also labour here, to obtain orders from the States to their minister, at Vienna, to sign the same treaty; but we could not stir the Pensioner one jot upon that subject: he would never propose to the States to sign they knew not what. However, Mr. Stepney has full powers to sign, and Count D'Aversberg knows it; and, therefore, you need not have concealed that from him. I suppose it is for that reason that Constantin never wrote to me since the 22nd September; though he then promised to write to me again very quickly.

I must now tell you, that the letter from the Duke of Savoy to the Queen, and what you wrote at the same time to Lord Nottingham, and what I wrote by the same post to London to desire my new orders, &c., were all brought back to the Briel, by contrary winds, after the packet-boat was got in sight of England; and, therefore, those letters would scarce be got to London till yesterday. The States made more haste, as well they might, and have sent an answer to the Duke of Savoy with assurances of their readiness to assist him. I did write to Constantin also to let him know, that I only expected orders, and was ready to start so soon as they came. I am very much mortified at the news you tell me of the defeat of the 1200 Imperial horse, and dread the consequences of such a *coup de massüe*. I have no comfort but in a piece of very good news which comes to day from Francfort and Stutgard, that Count Staremberg had quite routed the Grand Prior,[1] and that part of the French army which Vendôme had left behind him. I resolve to believe both, or

[1] Brother of the Duke of Vendôme.

neither of these relations. *Aut utramque putabo esse veram, aut utramque putabo esse fictam.* I am amazed at what you tell me of the little Savoyard. I hoped he had more mettle and courage. However, the letter I wrote to him did tell him nothing, but what all the Gazettes had published long before, viz.; that I was here, and ready to go farther, if his Royal Highness pleased; and this is all I have wrote to him since the King of Spain's death. I wonder the letters from Vienna say nothing of Count Tarin's arrival there, since they are of the 27th October. I am also sorry to see in your letter, that the Duke of Savoy's envoy had put off the diet *sine die*. One is apt to suspect every thing in some people. Pray let the envoy of Savoy know why the Queen has not yet answered the Duke's letter, and why I am not yet set forward. We hope all things will be ready for the King of Spain, so as that he may embark himself the middle of the next week. I am, &c.

To Mr. Aglionby. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Aglionby.

9th November.

Sir,

I must add something to my letter with regard to the credit of 4000 pistoles, which you say are ready for me at Berne. I do, indeed, know nothing particularly of it; but several people have offered me money and credit, and we shall want it all. But I am not yet sufficiently authorized to dispose of the Queen's money, nor to agree for the price of it. I mean with regard to the exchange and the charge of remises.[1]

Several French officers here are very full of proposals and schemes for serving in Piedmont and Savoy, and would make capitulations with the Queen and the States: but I am of opinion that it were much better they took commissions immediately from his Royal Highness, and entered immediately into his service. The ministers of the Queen and the States can always protect them, and take care to see that his Royal Highness does use them well. You will please to give the same answers to those officers which come in your way; because the Duke of Savoy has immediate occasion for their service. I am, &c.

To Mr. Aglionby. HILL.

[1] *Remittances.*

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, 9th November, 1703.

My Lord,

I had the honour to write to your Lordship the $\frac{19}{30}$th October, and the 2nd and 6th inst. I am afraid our letters are not got all safe over; but I am particularly in pain for the Duke of Savoy's to the Queen, which went with the letters of the $\frac{19}{30}$th past. I have not the honour of any letters from your Lordship since the $\frac{12}{23}$th rd past; and as the wind is now we can expect none. Sir George Rooke and myself cannot call out so loud for two or three English frigates to help to see the King of Spain safe from the Maese to Spithead, as we are called upon by his people, and by some of the Dutch. We have but three of the Queen's ships here now, (and one of them a very small one) and three Dutch. The two Zealanders are not yet come to Helvoetsluys. If these two should come, yet it is thought the convoy is not sufficient for so rich a fleet, since St. Paul may be in the way with an equal force. I have seen some fresh advices from Paris which say, that the Count de Thoulouse's squadron of 26 ships is to go to Cadiz, and to be joined there by a squadron from Brest, which may, perhaps, be stronger than what you have got ready to convoy the King of Spain from Spithead to Lisbon. The Queen's troops are now embarking at Williamstadt, and the Dutch at the Texel, and we are told all may be ready by Tuesday or Wednesday next, if the wind holds, and a convoy be ready.

I hear nothing certain from Piedmont since my last. Some letters from Italy say 1300 horse, detached by Count Staremberg, were joined to the Duke of Savoy's troops: other letters say, this detachment was met by the French and defeated. The last letters from Stutgard and Francfort bring great good news, that Staremberg had forced the French camp, since Vendome was marched towards Piedmont, and had entirely defeated the enemy. The last letters from Vienna bring no news of the arrival there of Count Tarin, the Duke of Savoy's minister. We are told from Geneva and Switzerland that the Duke of Savoy is willing to take into his service as many French Refugees as will come to him; and I have desired that they may all take commissions from his Royal Highness immediately. The Queen and the States may always give them

such protection there as they want, and such encouragement as they deserve. Here are also many reformed officers who are willing to go into the same service, and the Pensioner seems desirous to advance so much to them out of our fund of 300 thousand gilders as is necessary to carry them thither, to which I am not quite resolved to consent without leave from your Lordship. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Stepney.

Hague, 13th November, 1703.

Sir,

I must acknowledge the honour of your letters, 31st October, and 3rd November, which I received together last night. I am very glad Count Tarin was arrived with his packet; and I hope Monsieur Bruyninx will soon have a copy of it to send to his masters, who have no implicit faith about them. Count Tarin did leave a packet with Mr. Aglionby for the Duke of Marlborough, in which were a letter for the Queen, one for the States, and a third for his Grace. The States and the Duke did soon send their answers to his Royal Highness; but the letter to the Queen was kept at the Briel by Westerly winds one week; and the Easterly winds now hinder any answer coming from London. I must also have patience till the wind changes, when I shall see what orders the Queen will please to give me.

You have the treaty now at Vienna: you have powers to sign it, I think; if not, the Duke of Savoy's ministers may be here, and at London, sooner than I can get to Turin; and it is now their business as much as ours. I can make no serious answer to the wise Privy Counsellor you speak of, who could be so alarmed at my going to Aix. Pray desire him to go thither himself, and drink those waters, which are excellent good against vapours.

All things are getting ready here for the King of Spain's passage to England, and, I believe, his Majesty might be embarked to morrow, if the wind were not too good, and hindered two men-of-war, which we want, from coming from the Downs. I am, &c.

To Mr. Stepney. HILL.

Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, $\frac{\text{2nd,}}{\text{13th,}}$ November, 1703.

My Lord,

The wind is so very fair for the King of Spain that it is a pity to lose it; but we have only three English and three Dutch ships at Helvoetsluys, and they are not thought a sufficient convoy for his Majesty. We were in hopes of two more from Zealand, but they are not come yet; and I fear they cannot come with the wind at N.E. If those ships should come, or two more of the Queen's ships, to strengthen the squadron of six ships which is now with Sir G. Rooke, perhaps the Imperial council, which sits now here, may then suffer the King to venture to sea, since Sir G. Rooke has held a small council of war, where all his officers advise to venture over with eight ships, rather than lose so fair a wind. However, the Imperialists are so far alarmed with the news of St. Paul's being come out of Dunkirk, and of six ships that have been seen off the Maese, that nothing less than four or five ships more from England will quiet them. If a good secure convoy were here, they say, they would embark the King on Friday next, if the wind holds. I do not tell your Lordship what great man was a good deal disquieted here, when he had found by enquiry, that there was to be gunpowder aboard the yacht and the ships upon which his Majesty is to be transported to Lisbon. The King of Spain's family proves to be about 450 persons, which is above 100 more than can go aboard the yachts and the three English frigates which are here; so that if some of the Queen's ships-of-war do not come to take them in, we shall be forced to put them aboard some of the transport-ships amongst the soldiers, which will not be so well. The Dutch men-of-war will not take in one of them. We have no letters from England, since those of the 22nd October, and, therefore, I can have no orders from your Lordship since the Duke of Savoy's letter to her Majesty is come to your hands. His Royal Highness's minister arrived at Vienna the 3rd inst., with the treaty which Count D'Aversberg had made. If the Emperor does ratify it, and Mr. Stepney sign it for her Majesty, it will then sure be sent to the States, who will do nothing till they see it. We were told that his Royal Highness was sending a minister to the Queen, and another to the States. I find they are

willing here to expect one, before they send a minister to Turin. We are told that his Royal Highness is hearty and vigorous; that he encourages all the Vaudois and Refugees he can to come into his service. Some of them are gone, and some are going: others are willing to go serve the Queen and the States in Piedmont and Savoy, but are not willing to take commissions from his Royal Highness, in hopes to be sent thither in a body, upon an establishment from the Queen and the States. I have told all who apply to me, that the Queen can easily, and will certainly, protect all those Protestants who will enter into the Duke of Savoy's service; and if her Majesty and the States do send a General thither he will be glad to find so many men there who may be easily formed into a body; that I fear the Queen can do no more yet, till we know how far the Duke of Savoy will consent to have a body of Protestants under the command of their own officers. The States have wrote to this purpose, to their minister at Berne in Switzerland. I wish I may have instructions how far I may go, and if I may give any of the Queen's money here to such reformed officers as are willing to go to Savoy; or rather that the Queen would please to send so many from England as are willing to go, and let the States send what they please from hence; for if they send 50 of their reformed officers from hence, they will only advance them so many months of their half-pay, and will pretend to make me pay them twice as much, because they go into the service of Savoy.

The last letters from Italy do not confirm either the defeat of the Grand-Prieur by the Count de Staremberg, or the déroute[1] of the 1300 German horse, which were detached towards Piedmont. The news from Germany has lodged the French upon the counterscarp of Landau; and the young Prince of Hesse complains, that he could not relieve the place, because the troops of Hanover refused to pass the Moselle. The troops refused for want of orders from the Elector, their master. The Elector excuses himself by saying, he knew nothing of his troops being to march that way, and so far from their winter-quarters.

The packet-boat, which should have brought over the letters of the 8th, is certainly at Ostend, and I shall send thither

[1] Defeat.

to reclaim the prisoners, according to our agreement with the Flemmings the beginning of the summer. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, $\frac{5}{16}$th November, 1703.

My Lord,

I had the honour to write three lines to your Lordship the $\frac{3\text{rd},}{14\text{th},}$ which were to go by express, to signify the alarms which were given to us here by a squadron from Dunkirk. I must own that I was more in pain for the two or three ships which might be coming from the English coasts, and for our Russia-convoy which may naturally be now expected in these seas, than for the King of Spain and his convoy, which will venture nothing, but the loss of a fair wind. Sir G. Rooke and myself have been to day with the ministry here, and we have agreed, that the squadron of eight men of war from the Texel shall give us notice here, when they are ready to sail, and the King of Spain with his convoy will take measures to join them off the Maese, if the weather holds as it is now. In this case the King may embark on Monday or Tuesday next for Spithead, in spite of a few rogues from Dunkirk and Ostend who fright us out of our senses. We have great hopes that Landau will hold out till the succours may arrive. I have nothing to do, but to expect the honour of your Lordship's commands, as I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Aglionby.

Hague, 20th November, 1703.

Sir,

I am to thank you for the honour of your letter, of the 10th, and for the enclosed declaration of Puisieux[1] against our new ally. His Excellency is no good historian in that paper. I wish he may not be a better prophet in it. I am very much mortified at the ill state in which you represent his Royal Highness, and almost sorry I am not with him to bear

[1] French Ambassador in Switzerland.

my share at least in his fate, since I was listed this summer for his service. But I must tell you, in confidence, that Constantin and Mr. Stepney have kept me here these four months, and keep me here still. So soon as I got over, they sent word that my coming would make too much noise, that the treaty might be signed at Vienna, that full powers might be sent thither, &c., &c. About the end of September, Constantin sent me word, that his Royal Highness would have me continue at the Hague till I heard again from him, which, he said, should be very quickly: yet I have never heard one word more from the fat thing. Upon the sending powers to Mr. Stepney, I was directed to stay here till farther orders from the Cockpit, which orders are not yet come. If Count Tarin had wrote to me by order of his master, and left his letter for me with you, as he went by Zurich, I should, if required, have set forward, and have expected the Queen's orders at Zurich, or Geneva. But hearing nothing authentically enough from his Royal Highness, nothing from Constantin, and less than nothing from Mr. Stepney, who has stole my hushey, I am content to expect orders what I am to do. I am now told, that Mr. Stepney dares not sign the treaty which Count Tarin brought to Vienna, and is, therefore, coming with it himself to London. It is very well for me, perhaps, that Constantin and Stepney have kept me here; for if I had got to Turin, or to Geneva, I should have had so much zeal and mettle for his Royal Highness, or rather for the common cause, that I should have ventured to do more, perhaps, than I could answer, for the salvation of our new ally, who may now chance to be overrun, and so we may lose him before we find him. What I have to desire of you now is, to let Mons. Mellerade know, that I was stopped here at Constantin's and Stepney's earnest and repeated representations, who took the affairs of Savoy quite out of my hands; and, therefore, I am still expecting orders from London, before I can proceed towards Turin; but I may expect those orders by the first post, and I am very ready to obey them.

I am sorry our fleet did not do more this summer in the Mediterranean, and all along the coasts of Spain; but it went to look for our friends or our enemies, and could meet with neither. It was too late for such a fleet to go to Naples, the 12th October, when the Imperial ambassador did desire it of them, and I wish Sir Cloudesley was well at home.

The King of Spain is embarked this morning, I hope, at the Briel, though the weather is so hazy that I fear he cannot get to sea. We have lost ten days of the fairest wind and weather that we could wish. The young Prince is not to blame himself, being he is very good, and very reasonable, and the fittest thing alive to make a King of Spain. I am, &c.

To Mr. Aglionby. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, $\frac{9}{20}$th November, 1703.

My Lord,

We have yet no letters from London of a later date than those of the 22nd past: and therefore I have no orders from your Lordship, in answer to the Duke of Savoy's letter to the Queen.

The King of Spain's family was almost all embarked yesterday, and this morning, at 9 o'clock, the King got aboard the yacht at the Briel, and was got to sea (as I am told) by two; where the men-of-war and transport-ships joined him from the Goree. Callemberg was to sail yesterday from the Texel, and to meet them if he could off of the Maese. If they do not meet, Sir G. Rooke has five of the Queen's ships by the arrival of the Rochester and Swallow, and three good Dutch ships, which we thought, at last, might be a sufficient convoy, though they should miss Callenbourg, and two Zealanders which are ordered to join the fleet off Schonevelt. I hope Count Wratislaw will bring you news of the King's landing before you can receive this letter; for he will go ashore, if he can, in the Downs. The States will return all our reproaches upon us, if the Queen's ships and troops are not ready at Portsmouth to continue the King's voyage to Lisbon; for they are afraid the Count de Thoulouse may come through the Straits, and be stronger than the fleet which is designed to carry the King to Portugal.

I can say little to your Lordship of the affairs of Savoy; because those who were desirous to carry that negotiation to Vienna do keep it there. I did desire, ever since I came over, at the instance of the Pensioner, that a copy of the treaty might be sent hither, without which the States would give no powers to sign any thing. The treaty was signed at Turin, and sent for Vienna the 8th of October, S. N.: if a copy

thereof had been sent hither at the same time, the States might have come to a resolution upon it before now. The treaty has been at Vienna ever since the 2nd inst., S. N., and a copy thereof might have been sent hither in half this time. These delays may be fatal to the Duke of Savoy, for the Duke of Vendôme is ready to break into Piedmont, and the Count de Tessé into Savoy. All this while the Emperor's council is finding faults with the treaty, and do delay the ratification of it. What the Queen's minister may have done in it I know not; but sure I am the States have done, and will do, nothing till they see it: though they do express great zeal and readiness to assist his Royal Highness.

I just now receive a letter from Sir George Rooke off of the Briel, dated at 11 o'clock, by which he tells me that the wind was so far southerly and the weather so thick, that he feared they should not stir to day. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Aglionby.

Hague, the $\frac{12}{23}$th November, 1703.

Sir,

I have not the honour of any letter from you by the last post; but I must needs write to you this morning, or I shall burst. I have no orders from London yet, with relation to the Duke of Savoy; but that I must put to the account of contrary winds. It is now about five months that your fat friend is negotiating for us; yet could I never obtain a copy of the project of his treaty, though I wrote oft to Vienna for it, with ample protestations, that though the Queen had sent full powers to Vienna to sign it there, yet the States would do nothing till they saw what they were to do. It is now six weeks since the treaty is signed at Turin, and if it had been sent down this way, when Count Tarin went with it from Turin, the Queen and the States might have given their orders about it, before this time. It is now three weeks that the treaty is at Vienna, where the Emperor's ministers are finding faults with it, and will not ratify it. The Queen's plenipotentiary is of the same mind, and says he can do nothing with it. But instead of sending a copy of it from Vienna by a courier, which he told us was ready in August, or by the common post from Vienna, which would have brought it to

us here ten days since, his Lordship is coming with it himself. Now what can I do, or say to a treaty, which the Imperialists have refused to ratify, and the Queen's minister to sign? In the mean time the Duke of Savoy is in the utmost danger of losing his countries, and we of losing the benefit of his alliance. I think you would do well to tell Mons. de Mellerade some part of this matter; for I think the Duke of Savoy should send somebody hither, and to London, to set this matter right. I shall tell some part of this management to every body, to vindicate my own reputation, which is dear to me, and which will suffer, perhaps, by other people's conduct. I desire, at least, that you will judge favourably of an old friend, and one who is sincerely, &c., &c.

To Mr. Aglionby. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, $\frac{12}{23}$th November, 1703.

My Lord,

We have yet no letters from London since those of the 22nd past; though the wind has been west these three days.

Yesterday the King of Spain came back to this place. The Queen's ships, the yachts and transports are all safe at the Goree, and Rotterdam. What is become of Callemberg's squadron, with all the Dutch transports, and a fleet of merchants, which sailed from the Texel on Monday, the Lord knows. We hope they might reach the Downs.

We have had another severe blow in Germany. The troops which went to relieve Landau suffered themselves to be surprised by Count Tallard, and to be beaten by him. People were angry here at this misfortune, but not dismayed. They are sending more troops, and a train of artillery, to join those of Hanover, and those of Hesse which are left. I am just now well assured, that two packet-boats are come to the Briel with five mails from Harwich; but we shall not have the letters till to morrow-morning I fear. I know not what orders I may receive with regard to the Duke of Savoy; but I fear the Emperor's delay in ratifying his treaty, and Mr. Stepney's refusal to sign it, and his coming away with it from Vienna, may alter the measures which you have taken, or

force the Duke of Savoy to alter his. When the King of Spain goes hence, the Count de Goes is to act here as his Envoy Extraordinary, and when his Majesty goes from England Count Wratislaw is to have the like character.

If I can get Sir G. Rooke again, we will endeavour to settle something with the States for the sea-service the next year. I am, &c., &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, $\frac{13}{24}$th November, 1703.

My Lord,

I receive just now the honour of your Lordship's commands, by your letters of the 29th October, and of the 2nd, 6th, and 9th November. I am going about the execution of your orders as fast as I can. My arms and my bear-skins are ready for a long journey; but I shall be necessitated to stay here, I think, till Mr. Stepney arrives, which time I shall employ with the Pensioner in settling our common affairs in Savoy, in getting one from the States to go to Turin, in despatching as many Refugees from hence as I can, who will become Vaudois, I hope, or Camisards. I have employed a minister of the Duke of Wirtemberg here to treat with Monsieur Arnaud, and if I cannot get him and his myrmidons away before me, I will call on him myself, as I go through the Duchy of Wirtemberg. I must needs think our succours for the Duke of Savoy should be speedy; especially since the difficulties which have been made at Vienna about his treaty must be very discouraging to him. The most present and immediate supplies, which his Royal Highness will want and expect, must be in ready money. I know not how far the Queen's generosity may extend; but I fear the States will not be persuaded to part with their money, till the treaty is signed in form; which may chance be too late. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Aglionby.

Hague, the $\frac{16}{27}$th November, 1703.

Sir,

We received five packets together, from London, the

last Saturday. By my letters of the 2nd, I was ordered to make the best of my way to London: by those of the 6th and 9th, I was ordered to make haste to Turin. It was ill luck for me, that I did not receive the letters of the 2nd before the wind came easterly. However, I must obey, and should be this day upon the road, if I did not stay for Mr. Stepney, who came away from Vienna the 10th, and from Francfort the 22nd. He brings Count D'Aversberg's unnatural offspring in his pocket. I call it so, because the Emperor will not own it, nor would Mr. Stepney sign it. If they are both in the right, why should I undertake so long a journey? If they are in the wrong, I fear I shall come too late; for the Duke of Savoy is still capable of being revenged of his new Allies. I am in great impatience to see Mr. Stepney. I know not what I may think when I have seen him; but, at present, my resolutions are to make the best of my way to Francfort, where I may receive any farther orders. I am sorry there are so few Vaudois and Orangeois about you, who are able, or willing to serve; but I have found a great deal of difficulty here to get any who are proper for his Royal Highness's service. Some officers I hope we shall get, though we must pay dear for them; but I am in hopes they will serve the Duke of Savoy, or turn Camisards. I hope to find Monsieur Arnaud at Francfort or Stutgard, and engage him to pass with his troop into the valleys. I know not what Count Tarin will write to his master upon the Emperor's refusal to ratify the treaty, and upon Mr. Stepney's carrying it away; but I fear the resolutions which the Duke of Savoy may take, when he sees how his new allies do treat him. I must confess I wonder that his Royal Highness did not send somebody with the treaty directly hither, where we should, I believe, have used him better.

Pray do not be angry with Visconti alone: you see we have Generals who can match him. You shall hear from me again, so soon as I have talked half an hour with Mr. Stepney. In the mean time, I am, &c.

To Mr. Aglionby. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mons. Vander Meer.

'A la Haie, ce 27e Novembre, 1703.

Monsieur,

J'ay reçu des ordres de la Reine pour aller à Turin au

secours de S.A.R. On me dit ici que vous aurez au premier jour des ordres semblables de la part des Etats. Cela m'a fait un véritable plaisir, et je souhaite fort que nous puissions faire le voyage ensemble depuis Francfort. Nous devons l' un et l'autre donner toute notre attention pour avancer les intérêts de S.A.R. et je souhaite passionnément que nous puissions engager Mons. Arnaud à passer avec sa troupe de Vaudois dans les vallées. Nous devons, vous et moy, fournir aux moyens de le mettre en marche, et je vous supplie d'y mettre la main. Quand je seray à Francfort je payeray les deux tiers de ce qu'il lui faut: vous devrez fournir l'autre tiers pour le compte des Etats. Ayez le bonté de faire sçavoir cela à Mons. Arnaud le plutôt qu'il vous sera possible, et que nous puissions finir avec lui à mon arrivée à Francfort. Je suis bien aise d'avoir cette occasion de vous assurer que je suis, &c., &c.

'*A Mons. de Vander Meer.* HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Hague, $\frac{16}{27}$th November, 1703.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 12th, and resolve to send away some part of my family to morrow for Francfort, and to follow it myself as fast as I can. Mr. Stepney is come hither to day; but he has not brought any copy of the treaty with Savoy with him, as we hoped he would. He has brought a copy of that article which relates to the payment of subsidies to his Royal Highness, and we are to attend the Pensioner to morrow, to communicate to him all which Mr. Stepney knows of that matter. The Emperor had not ratified the treaty which the Count D'Aversberg had signed, when Mr. Stepney came from Vienna: and by what Prince Lichtenstein has said to me here, who says he was employed by the Emperor in that negotiation, his Imperial Majesty will not ratify it. Count D'Aversberg is blamed for exceeding his instructions, and is disavowed by the ministry of Vienna. Perhaps they think it is enough to have degaged[1] the Duke of Savoy from France, and will not provoke the Spaniards by alienating any part of the dominions of that Crown in Italy, which Count D'Aversberg

[1] Disengaged

parted with so freely. There is, therefore, no treaty of alliance yet made with the Duke of Savoy against France, as your Lordship seems to suppose, in the instructions which I received the last week. It will, therefore, be very necessary, that I should have farther orders, whether I am to sign the same treaty which the Emperor has not yet consented to ratify, and which Mr. Stepney did not think fit to sign. I did think myself sufficiently empowered by your Lordship's letter, of the 27th August, to engage the Queen for the payment of two-thirds of 80,000 crowns per month, if the States would have consented to pay the other third: as also for two-thirds of 100,000 crowns to be paid at the time of the Duke of Savoy's declaration. But I now fear the case is a good deal altered by the measures which have been taken at Vienna. I have communicated to the Pensioner the powers and instructions which I have received, and have desired the minister, who was designed to go from the States to Turin, might have the same; but these Gentlemen were so positive, not to give any orders to sign a treaty for them until they saw it, that I fear all which Mr. Stepney and I can say to morrow will not prevail with the Pensioner to go very far. However, I will be going forward to vindicate the Queen's honour and sincerity as much as I can; and I hope your Lordship's farther orders and directions will follow me to Francfort. I shall leave a memorial in writing here with some of the deputies of the Admiralty, pursuant to the resolutions of the Prince's Council, about joining their convoys to ours, and also concerning the number of ships which they will send to join with the Queen's fleets the next year. The colleges of the several Admiralties have demanded 48 ships of the line and 12 frigates for the service, to which the Province of Holland has consented. The other Provinces have not yet promised their quota, and when they shall have promised, Fries and Groningen cannot, and Zealand will not, perform. You are sure, I hope, of 19 ships from them at Lisbon, which are 7 more than you had last year. I know not if you can depend upon any more, besides what they may order to attend upon the Dunkirkers. I did make use of the orders your Lordship gave me, the 19th October, to direct Mr. Sadler to hire two transport-ships for the accommodation of the King of Spain's court and retinue, and carrying their baggage: this I should not have done, I believe, if there had been room for them all

aboard the ships-of-war and yachts which were then here. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Amsterdam, the $\frac{19}{30}$th of November, 1703.

My Lord,

I am come so far in my way towards Turin, and will go on as fast as I can, though I know not whether I can make haste enough. The King of Spain was pleased to tell me himself, that he thought the Emperor could not ratify the treaty, nor could he do it himself. I listed at the Hague above sixty French or Vaudois officers for the service of the Duke of Savoy. They are all men of service, some very good ones: they cost the Queen about £15 a head: two or three of them cost more, and are worth more. I gave them half the purchase-money at the Hague, and bills on Francfort for the other half. I hope to find Mons. Arnaud at Francfort, and to carry him with his black band forward; they will all serve the Duke of Savoy, or become Camisards. I hope your Lordship will consider, that I shall be but a volunteer or a Camisard myself, unless I carry money to the Duke of Savoy. There are almost three hundred thousand crowns due to him already by the treaty as it now stands. The Imperialists do pretend to mend the treaty. If the Duke of Savoy will allow that, I hope we may mend those two articles which relate to the subsidies to be paid by the Queen and the States, which articles are now very ill expressed. I hope to carry a minister from the States with me to Turin; I shall find him at Francfort. Mons. Callemberg is safe with his squadron, about two leagues from the Texel.

I shall send your Lordship, by the next post, a copy of a memorial which I left with the Admiralties at the Hague, to which I could get no answer. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Francfort, December $\frac{13\text{th}}{2\text{nd},}$ 1703.

My Lord,

I came to this place yesterday, and here I found the

honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 19th past; by which the Queen is pleased to command me to endeavour the extinction, or diminution at least, of the duties lately imposed on the English manufactures which are imported into Savoy, or Piedmont; and also to endeavour that the troops of his Royal Highness may be clothed with English manufactures, &c.; both of these orders I shall well remember, so soon as I can get to Turin, and shall labour in the execution of them with all the zeal and diligence I can possibly. I had the ill fortune to miss Count Maffei, who went through this town three days since, in his way to London, with another minister from his Royal Highness to the States. I find a minister from the States here ready to accompany me to Turin. He has his powers and instructions, and has already wrote to his Royal Highness to assure him, that he comes with money. I hope I shall receive the like powers and instructions from my Lord Treasurer, before I get over the mountains; else I shall be but a poor recruit to his Royal Highness. I do not find that the Duke is any way yet engaged in the grand alliance now in force between her Majesty, the Emperor, and others; but I remember that, in the beginning of the last war, his Royal Highness was formally admitted into the grand alliance then in being; and I believe it were very fit we should engage his Royal Highness the same way now if possible; however, I cannot positively insist upon this, without your Lordship's commands; and if I do receive such commands, I hope you will please to talk in the same language to Count Maffei.

Mons. Arnaud is here, and so soon as the post is gone, I am to treat with him, and I hope to engage him, with about 300 of his comrades, to march into the valleys of Piedmont. I will make the best bargain I can with him; because I must pay him out of the two hundred thousand gilders, which my Lord Treasurer allowed me to dispose of, for the succours of the Cevennois, whom we can no way relieve, I think, but through the valleys of Piedmont.

I send your Lordship here a copy of a memorial which I left at the Hague with the deputies of the Admiralty there. I could get no answer from them which I could lay hold of, and, therefore, I desired they would give your Lordship their resolutions by Mons. Vryberge.

I say nothing to your Lordship of the lamentable condition

in which I find the affairs of this German Empire. I know not whether the several Princes, their Ministers, or their Generals are most to blame; but their luxury, their impotence, and their indolence will certainly be fatal to them all, if the French were left at leisure to pursue the advantages, which they have had this summer upon the Rhine and the Danube. But this is not my province. My next stage is now to Zurich and Lausanne, and so to Turin if I can. I must desire that the next commands from your Lordship may be sent under cover to Mr. Aglionby, who will forward them to, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

Mémoire de Mons. Hill, Conseiller de l'Admirauté d'Angleterre &c.:

Comme il a plu à S.M. la Reine d'Angleterre d'ordonner 30 vaisseaux de ligne, de sa flotte, pour être joints aux 18 vaisseaux de L.H.P. à Lisbonne &c.: Sa M. m'a ordonné de représenter à Messeigneurs les directeurs de l'Admirauté des Provinces Unies, qu'elle le croit absolument nécessaire aux besoins des deux nations, que L.H.P. fassent armer de bonne heure 18 autres vaisseaux de ligne pour être joints à 30 autres vaisseaux de la Reine à Portsmouth, avec un nombre proportioné de frégates afin qu'ils puissent agir de concert, soit pour insulter les ennemis, soit pour réprimer les courses de leurs armateurs, soit pour la seureté du Canal, et des côtes d'Angleterre, et de Hollande, et de Zelande, soit pour observer les câpres de Dunkerque, d'Ostend et de St. Malo.

Le sousigné représente de plus par ordre de S.M.B. qu' elle souhaite que les Convois des vaisseaux marchands des deux nations qui vont à Lisbonne se puissent joindre, tant en y allant qu'en retournant, ce qui se peut faire facilement en se donnant rendezvous aux Dunes, ou à Spithead; et de plus, que les convois des deux nations qui vont au Sond et à la Russie l'année qui vient puissent avoir des ordres pour s'en retourner ensemble.

Le sousigné représente de plus, que la Reine fera fournir 8 vaisseaux ou frégates pour bloquer le port de Dunkerque, ou pour observer et poursuivre les câpres de ce Port, en cas qu'ils en sortent, et S.M. souhaite que les Etats en fournissent 6 de leur vaisseaux lenr pour le même service, et demande

que ces 14 vaisseaux agissent de concert. Je supplie Messrs de l'Admirauté de vouloir faire sçavoir leurs intentions sur ces articles à la Reine par Mons. de Vryberge qui est à Londres.

Fait à la Haie, ce HILL.
28e *Novembre* 1703.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Francfort, the $\frac{4}{15}$th December, 1703.

My Lord,

I have now furnished my treaty with Mons. Arnaud; but I have not found my account with him so well as I expected. I was told in Holland that I might depend upon 5 or 600 good men at least; that 300 of them were actually under arms in the lines, under the command of General Arnaud, &c. When I came hither I found that Mons. Arnaud had really been in the lines with about 50 of his militia, and he has undertaken to march himself in person with his brother, and hopes to pick up about 100 of his countrymen, who will follow him into the valleys of Piedmont. We have given money to Mons. Arnaud, his brother, and another captain to their own content, and have made a fund here (I mean the Dutch Envoy and myself), another at Stutgard, and another at Schaffhausen, where we have left two pistoles a head for every Vaudois or French refugee, who will go into the valleys of Piedmont. I have, moreover, promised Monsieur Arnaud, to represent his services, when he shall have done any, so justly to the Queen, and her ministers, that he may hope to find his pension restored to him. I hope to be gone hence in 24 hours in company with an Envoy from Holland; but I must still hope to receive orders from my Lord Treasurer before I arrive at Turin. You may please to observe what the Duke of Savoy will pretend from the Queen, according to the project of his treaty, viz.: in hand 100,000 crowns:

Subsidies for 2 months from Oct. 3rd, N.S.,	160,000
Two months more, commencing the 3rd, Dec.,	160,000
	420,000

the two-thirds of which make 280 thousand crowns, which his Royal Highness will expect from her Majesty upon my arrival at Turin. I am the more careful to put your Lordship in mind of this; because I see no provision a making yet

in the resolutions of the House of Commons for the war of Savoy. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Zurich, the 1st January, 170$\frac{3}{4}$, N.S.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 23rd November, and I shall exactly obey the orders which you are pleased to give me. I should have been glad to know whether the number of 15,000 men, which the Queen does expect his Royal Highness should maintain against the common enemy, are to be understood as over and above the number of troops which his Royal Highness did usually entertain upon his own funds. Your Lordship will be informed that the Emperor has ratified Count de Aversberg's treaty with some modifications; but, since the minister of Holland and myself are of opinion, that it will be for the honour of the Queen and the States to make a convention with his Royal Highness, pursuant to our instructions, I hope your Lordship will let Count Maffei believe, that I am directed so to do. I could not get a positive assurance from the Pensioner that the States would pay one-third part of the whole which the Emperor and his minister have promised for the Queen and the States; but he endeavoured to make me believe the States would come up to it; and I do presume so far upon their good intentions, and the effect of the Queen's solicitation with them, that I believe I shall venture to go as far as I dare, to serve the Duke of Savoy so soon as I come to Turin; because I shall find him under great pressures. I am getting forward as fast as the season, the snow, and the mountains will let me.

One Mr. Leers, of Rotterdam, sends me word that he is going to London to shew your Lordship a project which several people in Holland are fond of. I shall give him a letter of recommendation to your Lordship, as he desires, the rather because I believe he has some other business in England, being in good credit with the Pensioner, and several others. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Lausanne, 6th January 170$\frac{3}{4}$, N.S.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship from Zurich, the 1st inst.; and I stay here only to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's orders, of December 10th, which met me here. I shall endeavour to obey them as far as I can; but if his Royal Highness is in a condition to act offensively in the spring, as he hopes to be, especially if the Imperialists come to join most of their forces with the Piedmontese in the Montferat, it will be impossible to persuade the Duke to bring an army of Germans through his own dominions, to act towards France; especially when it is to be considered, that what his Royal Highness can get in the Montferat, &c., is for himself; however, I will try what may be done. I am assured that his Royal Highness will have 20,000 men in his service; so I shall insist upon that number; and if his Royal Highness can have so many of his own troops, besides 20,000 Germans, he will be able to furnish so many men to act towards France, as may assist the Queen's fleet in the execution of any orders which her Majesty shall give to it. It will be very good news at Turin when I can assure them, that the fleet will come into the Mediterranean, provided there are any troops aboard. I find by several hands that his Royal Highness will be very earnest with us to receive as much money as he can on our arrival at Turin; and I am as well assured, that he will want a great deal; because he has been, and must be, at great expence in his new levies, especially for his horse. I shall observe your Lordship's orders, of the 23rd November, to advance only two-thirds of what the States will pay; but the Duke of Savoy will be far short of his account, because the States have taken a new resolution, whether it were not best to pay part of their share to the Duke, and the rest of it to such troops as shall be in his Royal Highness's service. This resolution will mortify his Royal Highness, and will require much time to be put in practice, and be of no use, unless it be to gain time for the payment of money, which, perhaps, is not ready. By all that I can see, as I come nearer to Turin, his Royal Highness is very vigorous and active, and will put a new spirit into the Emperor's affairs in Italy. Some of my officers are already here, and all the rest are got as far as Bern. I am &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mons. St. Thomas.

'A Turin, ce 14e Janvier, 1704.

Monsieur,

Nous venons d'arriver ici ce soir, Mons. l'Envoyé de Hollande et moy. Je serois bien mortifié de n'avoir pas trouvé S. A. R., à Turin, si ses grands désseins pour les intérêts communs ne nous consoloient du tout. Je m'addresse pourtant à votre Excellence le plutôt qu'il m'est possible, pour vous prier de me faire sçavoir les intentions de S. A. R., si je devrois attendre son retour ici, ou si elle me permettra de venir me mettre à ses pieds à son Camp; ou bien si elle me donnera quelque Commissaire ici à qui je pourrois expliquer les ordres que j'ay reçu de la Reine de Angleterre, ma maîtresse. Je suis venu avec un cœur plein de zèle et d'ardenr pour le service de S. A. R., et je suis, &c.

'*A Mons. St. Thomas, &c.* HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, $\frac{4}{15}$th January, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

I was willing to stay till I came hither to thank your Lordship for the honour of your kind letter, of the 23rd November, which overtook me at Zurich. I must thank your Lordship for the care which you are pleased to take of me, and for the powers which you give me of being welcome and useful to his Royal Highness. He is a brave mettled Prince, my Lord, and will deserve, I hope, all that the Queen and your Lordship can do for him. I shall exactly observe the instructions which I receive from my Lord Nottingham; but since the States have assured the minister of Savoy at the Hague, that they had one hundred thousand crowns ready there *à bon compte* for his Royal Highness I am sure they will expect two hundred thousand crowns from me. I see I can find credit here for that sum, and shall, I believe, give bills upon London for the value of that sum. I must draw my bills, I think, upon Mr. How, or upon Mr. Fox, who may receive the money in the Exchequer, and account for it in due form. This method, at present, will be easy for his Royal Highness; but, perhaps it may be for the Queen's service, and for his Royal Highness's also, when the subsidies are a little more ascertained, to make *remises* hither, or to

pay the subsidies into the hands of Count Maffei. I find the term of *a crown* here very equivocal: for there is not a good crown-piece in the country. The States pretend to pay their share at the Hague in the money of that country, and to pay 50 stivers for a crown, and leave the uncertainty of the exchange to the Duke's minister, Perhaps your Lordship may think fit to remit the Queen's share to Holland also, and assign it there to the Duke's ministers. One Mons. Lullin, of Geneva, is gone, by the Duke's order, to the Hague, and from thence he is to go to London, to wait upon your Lordship. When you have settled the method and the manner in which you would have the payments go, I hope your Lordship will please to let me know it. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, January $\frac{4}{15}$th, 1704.

My Lord,

I got hither last night unto my post, with some hazard and much labour. I did not find his Royal Highness here; for he was marched with about 6000 foot, and about 2400 horse, or dragoons, to the borders of the Montferat, where he was to join Count Guido de Staremberg, who marched at the head of what they call 18,000 Imperialists; and we hope they will all be joined together to day, at a place called Aqui, in the Montferat. This is a masterly stroke, my Lord, and of his Royal Highness's manner. The scene of this Italian war is now removed from behind the Seccia, where it had been too long; and we hope his Royal Highness will soon be able to carry it into the Alexandrin, or any other part of the Milanese. Our affairs in Savoy are not so prosperous, for the Marquis de la Feuillade, with about 18 battalions and some dragoons, has made himself master there. I have sent to the camp to know if his Royal Highness pleases to have me come to him there or to expect his return here, or to have me communicate my orders to some of his ministers? I shall soon have an answer I believe; because his Royal Highness is in want of several things. He was forced to send his jewels to Genoa, to borrow upon them one hundred thousand crowns of ready money, which he gave to the Imperialists, without which they could not have come to join him; but

never were jewels employed to better purpose. I have seen nobody yet almost but the Count D'Aversberg, who has promised to communicate to me the treaty as it is allowed and ratified at Vienna; but it is, it seems, in such terms as do not come up to his Royal Highness's demands. They are well agreed upon the article which regards the subsidies to be paid by England and Holland, and in this the minister from the States and myself must do as well as we can. The States have assured Mons. del Burgho, at the Hague, that they have one hundred thousand crowns ready there for the service of his Royal Highness; and, therefore, they will expect two hundred thousand from her Majesty. I must needs say, that, in my humble opinion, we should do all that is possible to assist his Royal Highness, at least in his first enterprises; for certainly his genius, his spirit, and his activity are admirable; but they are much beyond his own natural force. I am just now informed that an express is come from the camp, who saw the Germans and the Savoyards actually joined before he came away, at a place called Govon. I hope your Lordship will allow me to be a little weary, and to say no more to day, but that I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, $\frac{7}{18}$th January, $170\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship from this place the last post. Since then I have received a very civil answer from the Marquis de St. Thomas, by which he desires me to stay here till I hear farther from his Royal Highness, who is at present in a continual motion. Count D'Aversberg shewed me the treaty, and some private articles in a separate treaty which are all signed and ratified by the Emperor. I should have sent your Lordship a copy of all to day, I believe, if his Royal Highness had not sent for Count D'Aversberg, and the treaty to the camp, where I am apt to think that his Royal Highness will sign it also, before he suffers Count D'Aversberg to bring it back, for certainly every word of it was made by the Duke's own ministers. If his

Royal Highness does think fit to sign it, I believe he will then desire me, and the minister of Holland, to sign it also, according to the powers which we have from the Queen and the States; but I shall endeavour all I can to avoid this, and to make a treaty, if it is possible, for her Majesty, and the States, in which his Royal Highness may appear obliged to some one thing, besides the honour of his friendship. However, not to shew any backwardness for the service and assistance of his Royal Highness, I shall venture to pay here two hundred thousand crowns upon account, so soon as I am pressed, for which I shall draw bills upon London, as my Lord Treasurer has been pleased to allow me to do.

I must now give your Lordship an account of two adventures which I met in my way through Switzerland. Mons. Hugetan came post all night from Geneva, to meet me at Lausanne. He said it was to see me, and to justify his conduct to me, &c. I received him pretty cavalierly, and chid him seriously, &c. He desired to speak to me privately two words, and then told me he had orders to ask me, if it were not possible to find some way of making some proposals towards an accommodation between England and France? I told him I thought it was not possible. He said he thought it was, and desired me to think of it. I told him no, I durst not, I would not, think of it. He asked me if I would not write to London about it? I said I should be obliged to tell your Lordship all that had passed between him and me; because I should scarcely think myself innocent after such a conversation with him, until I had been at confession; and so I left him. "I met another man of a very different spirit "and resolution: a Frenchman, a Roman catholic, a white "Camisard, who would engage to raise a revolt in Dauphiné "and Languedoc amongst the catholics, if I would promise "him such a protection and assistance as was absolutely ne- "cessary to begin the work. I liked the character of the man, "and his temper so much, a man of figure, and family, very "well known, that I promised him every thing. He promised "to come to me here, and I hope to make something of it; "if I do, I shall give your Lordship an exact account."

I am to have a private audience to night of Madame Royale, and of Madame la Duchesse. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}^{\text{th}}_{\text{nd}}$ January, $170\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship, the last post, and have little to add to day, if I were not obliged to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter, of the 17th December. His Royal Highness is not yet come back from the camp, though it is impossible for the troops to subsist any longer in the field, especially the Germans, who are not well clothed, and have no tents, and are forced to lie, most of them, in the open air, though the weather is colder here now than I ever felt it in England. His Royal Highness designed bravely to drive the enemies out of Ast, and some other posts which they have secured thereabout, and then to put his army into quarters, into that part of the Montferrat which belongs to the Duke of Mantua. The cruelty of the season has hindered the execution of this design, and his Royal Highness is now marched towards Verrue, and will put the army into quarters, I believe, thereabouts. Comte D'Aversberg is come back from the camp with the treaty, as it is signed and ratified by the Emperor, which his Royal Highness will not sign, insisting upon the Emperor's signing that treaty which was sent hence to Vienna. The difference between these two projects is some places, more or less, which are to be ceded to his Royal Highness in which the Queen is not concerned. However, though the treaty is not perfected, his Royal Highness is hearty in the execution of it already, and to shew the sincerity of her Majesty in his assistance, I have already paid 150,000 crowns to his Royal Highness, and have promised him fifty-thousand more in three days, on account of the subsidies to which her Majesty is to be obliged. In this I only keep pace with the States, who resolved the 30th Dec., to pay a 100,000 crowns at the Hague to the Savoy minister upon account. My 200,000 crowns here were more welcome, which I got in 24 hours, upon the credit of my Lord Treasurer's letter to me of Nov. 23rd; and I must here take leave to observe with great joy and pleasure, that from the Briel to this town, I have every where found the honour and veneration due to her Majesty's government at as high a point, as heart can desire. The Duke has sent the Marqnis de Prié to treat with me and the Dutch

minister, and we are to begin to night. We shall be forced, I believe, to submit to the subsidies which the Emperor has promised for us; but we will insist upon 20,000 men, though his Royal Highness would never promise the Emperor more than 14,000. It is men indeed and troops which his Royal Highness wants most; and I do not see well where they will be got. His Royal Highness is very busy with the Swiss, and spares neither pains nor money to get some troops from them. I have brought above 50 French officers with me, who are now here; but I shall have great difficulty to get them employed. The reason which is given me is, that they can get no men, and his Royal Highness wants soldiers more than officers. I fear there are other reasons. I must, therefore, desire the Queen would please to send no more French officers hither from England, until your Lordship can make some capitulation for them with Count Maffei, or till I can procure some establishment for them here. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, $\frac{11}{22}\frac{th}{nd}$ January, $170\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship the last week, so soon as I got hither. I made use of the credit which you were pleased to give me the 23rd November, and have already paid his Royal Highness 150,000 crowns in ready money, and have promised to pay 50,000 more in three or four days. I have drawn bills upon Mr. Fox for the value of them, which I humbly recommend to your Lordship's goodness. I paid this money here, upon the foot of eighty-two pence of Piedmont money for a crown, because this was the value of a crown, so long as the money in Piedmont was good; and because the crown which the Duke's ministers will receive in Holland will yield no more. For the first 50,000 crowns, I gave a bill upon Mr. Fox for £12,187 10s: for the other 100,000, I gave a bill only for £23,958 6s, 8d. I am indeed ashamed of my first bargain, because the last is better; but I made the last with Lullin and partners, who are engaged with Hugetan, and the King of France's bankers, with whom, at first, I was not willing to engage. I hope to make as good a bargain for the other 50,000 crowns, which I have

promised to pay in three days. I ventured to pay these 200,000 crowns to the Duke, because of his urgent necessities, because I saw the resolutions of the States, dated the 30th, December, to pay 100,000 crowns at the Hague, and because the treaty to which the Queen is to be obliged imports an advance of 100,000 crowns. Subsidies for October and November 160,000: Ditto for December and January 160,000; of which her Majesty is to pay two-thirds.

Whilst I am writing this, I receive the honour of your Lordship's pleasure, signified to me by Mr. Lowndes, the 17th, December, for which I humbly thank you. I shall manage the credit, which your Lordship is pleased to say shall be sent me next week, as well as I can, and I am sorry I did not stay for it. But the honour of your Lordship's letter to me, of the 23rd, November, gave me credit enough to get half the money out of the banks of Amsterdam and Venice. I beg your Lordship to excuse me, if I have been too forward in my payments. I shall hang myself that hour in which I think you are not satisfied with the zeal and attention with which, I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, $\frac{14}{25}$th January, $170\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

I have not yet had the honour to see his Royal Highness, who is still in the field; but the troops are now getting under cover, and, I believe, his Royal Highness will come hither in three days. I have had two or three conferences with the Duke's ministers, and have given them a project of a short treaty, which I am willing to make according to my instructions, and the Envoy of Holland does entirely concur with me in it; but I perceive that his Royal Highness will be desirous to stick purely and simply to Count D'Aversberg's treaty, without any farther engagements. I see no inclination to employ any refugees this way. The reason which they urge is, that they want soldiers, not officers. I do give all the assurances I can possibly, that the Queen's fleet will come this summer into the Mediterranean: but unless there are 10,000 soldiers aboard the fleet it will not have that respect paid to it which it deserves. "I have be-

"gun to press the Duke of Savoy's ministers to try all ways "of gaining the Elector of Bavaria to come into the common "interests; but I am told there are no hopes, that Elector "having declared to the minister of Savoy, who pressed him "on that subject, that he will stand and fall with France; "and the Elector has desired the minister of Savoy to leave "his Court. I will now try what may be done with the Re- "public of Venice." I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, February 1st, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

So soon as his Royal Highness came to town, he was pleased to give me a gracious and long audience, without any ceremony, to which the Marquis of St. Thomas, Minister and Secretary of State, came to invite me; and I could not but think that this was more honourable than to pass by the hands of a formal master of ceremony. I delivered the Queen's letter, and assured his Royal Highness, in the best terms I could, of her Majesty's zeal and religion for the support of all her allies; and of the particular care which she would take for the defence and assistance of his Royal Highness in his present engagements. The Duke, who is naturally eloquent, said much more than I could in the Queen's honour, and that the confidence which he had in the Queen's goodness and protection was what most determined him in the bold resolution which he had taken, with 4000 men, to declare war upon France and Spain, almost in sight of their armies. The rest of my audience passed in a lively description of the situation of his affairs, &c. The next day I had another audience, in which I had leisure to speak more particularly to his Royal Highness, and to say, that, since the treaty with Vienna is not yet finished, it would be thought reasonable at London and at the Hague to make a short treaty with his Royal Highness according to the project which I had given to his ministers, and of which I send your Lordship herewith a copy. I soon found his Royal Highness had rather stick to the treaty with the Emperor, which he expects to have ratified by the Queen and by the States. I was forced to say, that the Parliament expects to have such trea-

ties laid before them, as the Queen is pleased to make, and that I believed the treaty which I had projected according to my instructions would be more proper to be shewn than the other. I then observed, that his Royal Highness expected no manner of limitation as to the 80,000, crowns per month; nor that he would engage to keep more than 14,000 men; and that the prohibition of commerce with France and the article about the Vaudois would give us some trouble. However, his Royal Highness will, he said, examine my project a little, and speak more to it in two or three days.

I pressed his Royal Highness pretty earnestly in favour of the 60 officers which I brought for his service; that he would employ them to raise two battalions of refugees, who might do good service upon the frontiers of France; or that he would put them at the head of the Vaudois. I could not convince his Royal Highness that they could be useful to him, either of those ways, or a third way which I proposed, viz, by sending them into the Cevennes; but his Royal Highness did convince me, that it is not possible for these officers to raise any refugees this way, nor to have them from France, nor for them to pass into the Cevennes, since the French troops are in possession of Savoy, and of all that frontier from the lake of Geneva to Antibes. All I could obtain was, that his Royal Highness would employ them in the new regiments which he is raising; with a promise to let them be better employed when there shall be occasion. I desire your Lordship will let me receive the Queen's commands with regard to the project which I send here; and that your Lordship would please to explain your own meaning to the minister of Savoy. I will stand firm here as long as I can, and as long as the Envoy of Holland will stand by me. General Arnaud, and all the Vaudois, which we could pick up in Germany and Switzerland, are to be employed in the valleys.

"The Duke of Savoy is not satisfied with the Court of
"Vienna, which has not yet ratified his treaty. He is angry
"that he has not the command of the 12,000 Germans effec-
"tive, who came to join him. He is well pleased with Sta-
"remberg, and esteems his merit; but is impatient till he has
"the command of the Imperial Army, which is promised by
"the treaty. The 12,000 Germans will not be sufficient to
"cover Piedmont with the Duke's forces; unless care be
"taken at Vienna for their recruits and for their subsistence.

"The Duke is forced to give them bread and forage, and I "begin to fear they must expect their subsistence from the "Queen's subsidies. These 12,000 men are the foot of "32,000. I fear his Royal Highness will not be persuaded "this year to give any attention to the affairs of the Cevennes, "or the coasts of Provence. Our greatest care will be to "keep the French out of Piedmont, as well those which hang "over us in Savoy and Dauphiné, as those who are in Lom- "bardy. Our next care will be to keep a communication "open with Germany, through the Tyrol."

By the best accounts I can get, the French and Spaniards, in Lombardy, are not above 36,000 men; though the foot of these troops is above 70,000. I cannot find that his Royal Highness has any correspondence with the Senate of Venice, and when he sent notice to the Republic of his rupture with France, and of his declaration of war, they made him no manner of answer. Our troops, and Count Guido's, are all very quiet now in their quarters; but we hope to be soon abroad again. We have no letters from London since the 17th December, nor any account of King Charles's passage. Those who saw and observed King Philip, when he was in Italy, have no great veneration for his person, his merit, his capacity, or genius. Our Governor of Nice has made an incursion upon the borders of Provence, where he got some prisoners, and some contribution, and obliged the French, for want of troops, to raise the *ban et arrièreban*.[1] I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 5th February, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

We now want six mails from London, and I have not the honour of any commands from your Lordship, since the 17th. December. This is the sixth letter which I write to your Lordship from hence; and I presume to write every post, because our letters are long upon the road, and on a dangerous, uncertain road, subject to the curiosity of several people. I am obliged for the same reason to put every thing of moment into cipher. I sent your Lordship, by the last post, a copy of

[1] A proclamation whereby all those who hold lands of the crown are summoned to serve the King in his wars.

the project which I gave to his Royal Highness, unto which I am promised some answer in three days. I durst not venture a copy of the Emperor's treaty by the post. I shall write at large to your Lordship by the next post. The disorders at Vienna, and the calamities of the Empire, give us some disquiet here. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 8th February, 170$\frac{3}{4}$, N. S.

My Lord,

We now want seven posts from London. Since my last we have waited upon his Royal Highness, the Envoy of Holland and myself, upon the subject-matter of the project, which I sent to your Lordship, and we have had a long conference with the Commissaries which his Royal Highness has given us. Much good time, and many useless words, have been spent, and nothing is done. The intention of his Royal Highness, who does all himself, and loves to have all his own way, seems to be only to obtain from the Queen and the States the ratification of the treaty which was made with the Emperor; and which his Highness hopes to have his own way at last, though it is not yet come from Vienna. We insisted very firmly to have something for what the Queen and the States must pay; to engage his Royal Highness in the grand alliance; to have 20,000 men; to interrupt all commerce with France, which at present is open as in time of peace, and upon such a foot that good part of our subsidies will go every month to Lyons; to have some more favour, privilege, and employment for the poor Vaudois; and lastly to have the subsidies diminished in proportion to the acquisitions which his Royal Highness shall make, as was demanded from her Majesty in all the abstracts which came from Vienna the last summer. I insisted positively upon this last article, because I found so much difficulty made upon the others; and said I could not consent to the payment of 80,000 crowns per month without farther leave from the Queen; though I have, indeed, power from your Lordship to consent to that sum, when the Envoy of Holland does; and he has orders to submit to it, when he cannot come off cheaper. I cannot but observe, that though his Royal Highness

is a very hopeful ally, yet he has no manner of treaty made with any of the allies. I should have sent your Lordship a copy of what his Royal Highness and Count D'Aversberg made, which the Emperor rejected, and of that which the Emperor has signed, to which his Royal Highness will not submit, though there is danger on the road, if I were not assured that Count Maffei has both. I hope he has shewn them to your Lordship, because of the guarantee which is expected from her Majesty. His Royal Highness has communicated to me his *état de guerre* for this year, which amounts to 25,000 men, but he yet wants 10,000 of them. His levies in Switzerland go on very slowly, though he spares neither pains nor money to obtain them, having already sent 100,000 pistoles thither. Count Guido de Staremberg is here, and is treated according to his merit. But his Royal Highness and he would certainly not draw well together a whole campaign, and, therefore, I believe the Count will go to the other army beyond the Secchia, and leave the young Prince of Vaudemont to command the Imperialists, which are in the Montferrat, under his Royal Highness. By the last letters from France it is sure that the poor people in the Cevennes do keep the field still, and it is a pity that they are not relieved. I have once more tried his Royal Highness, but I cannot persuade him yet to look that way. The disorders at Vienna, which make him fear that the German troops will neither have recruits nor subsistence, and the number of French troops which are in Savoy, Dauphiné, and Languedoc, serve for excuses enough. In the mean time the French recruit their armies in Italy apace: it vexes me to see them carry men, arms, clothes, ammunition, wine, brandy, corn, provender, and every thing which is necessary for their armies, freely and undisturbed from Marseilles and Toulon. My man is come from Switzerland, of whom I had the honour to write to your Lordship the $\frac{7}{18}$th January: he is brave and hearty, but I cannot yet fix him to any system which is practicable. However, I will keep him, and make the best use I can of him. I will not *prodigue*[1] the Queen's money, but I hope my Lord Treasurer will not be angry if I do hazard some of it. I have spoken to his Royal Highness to see if a small corps of refugees of 4 or 500 men, more or less, commanded by an officer of note and distinction, would not be of

[1] *Spend prodigally*.

great use to him here, and to the common cause. He says, yes, and would be very glad to have them here, but would have them raised, clothed, and armed, at the Queen's expence, and brought aboard the fleet to Villa-Franca. He adds also, that if they were debarked on the coasts of Languedoc they would do more service. Some people here do believe that 5 or 600 resolute men set ashore there, might force their way up to the mountains. I named two persons of quality to his Royal Highness as very fit to serve the Queen, and him, and the common cause, if they were agreeable to him. His Royal Highness said, yes, and does render great justice to the merit and capacity of the one, and to the zeal of the other; but unless they come well attended, he thinks they will not do much. We are willing to believe here that some attempt upon the coasts of Normandy, according to Mr. Leer's project, would be more easy and more useful than what we can do here; but, perhaps, all our arguments are founded upon our own security here, and the liberty which that would give us to act here as we please. I have yet paid only 150,000 crowns: I am pressed for the other 50,000 which I promised. I can only defend myself by saying truth, which is, that I expect letters from my Lord Treasurer which he was pleased to promise me, the 17th Dec., since when we have no letters from London. Whilst I am writing this to your Lordship the commissioners of his Royal Highness are come to explain to the Envoy of Holland and myself his sense upon the conference which we had yesterday. If I have time to night I will let your Lordship know something of it. I have only time to tell your Lordship that his Royal Highness is a very absolute Prince, and will have every thing his own way. He says he must have 80,000 crowns per month paid him per advance, and paid in this town of Turin, without any diminution in respect of the acquisitions which his Royal Highness may make of the places which are to be yielded to him by the Emperor. For these subsidies his Royal Highness will not promise to keep on foot above 15,000 men, though he does propose to himself to have 25,000 in his pay, so soon as he can raise them. His Royal Highness will not consent to put the interruption of trade with France into any article of our treaty: he only promises to consult his ministers in order to come to some regulation of commerce with his allies. His Royal Highness does de-

mand that the Queen and the States should engage to ratify and confirm by an act of guarantee the treaty which is making with the Emperor. His Royal Highness does consent to come into the treaty of the grand alliance which was made at the Hague in 1701. His Royal Highness does consent and give leave to the Vaudois to enjoy the liberty of their religion, and to fight for his service. We were a little out of humour, the Envoy of Holland and myself, to come so far and make so ill a bargain for so much money. We have, therefore, taken time to give advice of all this at London and the Hague, and his Royal Highness has ordered an account to be sent to his ministers to solicit the Queen and the States to be contented with what he is pleased to offer. I do, therefore, expect your Lordship's farther orders, which I shall cheerfully obey whatever they are. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the $\frac{1st}{12th}$, February, $170\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

This is the third letter which I take the liberty to write to your Lordship from this place. I sent your Lordship notice, that I had paid here to the Treasurer of his Royal Highness, so soon as I arrived, 150,000 crowns. I should have paid 50,000 crowns more if I had not received Mr. Lowndes's letter, of the 17th December, in which he told me that your Lordship would send me some credit. That credit is not yet come to my hands, though I perceive, by a letter which I have received from my Lord Nottingham, of the 14th January, that your Lordship had sent me credit for 200,000 crowns, which I shall receive, as I believe, by the next post from Switzerland. I did inform your Lordship that I had drawn bills upon Mr. Fox for the 150,000 crowns which I had taken up here, which I did on the best terms I could. I must now inform your Lordship that I have had very long conferences with his Royal Highness and his ministers about the payment of these subsidies. They insist hard to have them paid here in Turin, and to be paid per advance, and to have a crown in specie, for what the treaty calls a crown. I was desirous to leave the management of all that to your Lordship's direction, and to the solicitation of the Duke's

minister in London. I am almost beaten from that. I now insist that the Queen cannot in reason be required to pay more than the States do pay for a crown, which is 50st. courᵗ. money of Holland for each crown. In this I will not be beaten. The next question is, what must be paid here for such a crown? I would have left that to the care of the Duke's ministers and bankers: this will not pass. I then offered to undertake to pay here 4 livres of this money for a crown, and to take the loss on the exchange for the Queen's account. I stand yet upon this point; because the subsidies which France paid were on that foot; and because 50 st. paid at the Hague will not yield more. They pretend to have here 4l. 2d, per crown; or to have an English crown in London paid for a crown. I shall rather submit to the first than to the latter of these proposals, because the States have begun to remit 100,000 crowns, of which 10,000 are come, payable at the rate of 4l. 2d., money of Piedmont for each crown. I was ready to settle the Queen's share of the Subsidies on this foot with the General de Finances here, when Count Maffei's letter came, which gives advice of the 200,000 crowns which are remitted at 4l. 5d., per crown. If I receive any orders from your Lordship, I shall obey them. If I receive none, I shall try to value the 200,000 which you send me upon the foot which the crown is here, viz., at 4l. 2d., per crown, in which case the 3d saved upon each crown for the 200,000 crowns will procure an acquittance to the Queen of 2007,317 crowns. If I can save these 7317 crowns honourably I will; because it will be worth while upon the whole payments. Whatever I do is always submitted to your judgement. I only desire to shew the zeal and integrity with which I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 12th February, 1704, N. S.

My Lord,

I am going to thank your Lordship very seriously for a letter of the 14th of January, with which you were pleased to honour me. The orders which you give me are so reasonable, and the directions so plain, that I will not, that I cannot, go out of the way. I do not wonder, therefore, at the justice which the House of Commons has done to your Lordship, to

which every one of the Queen's allies ought to subscribe. I shall now be very easy to his Royal Highness, and so soon as his treaty comes back from Vienna, I will soon despatch it here. I hope to give such a turn to it, as to include the treaty of the grand alliance, to get something for our manufactures, and something for the poor Vaudois; and I will be contented with what I can get. We are a little uneasy at the storm which is gathering in Dauphiné, where we are told that the enemy is assembling 30 battalions and 40 squadrons; and that they are making great magazines at Ambrun and Briançon, and many carriages for cannon. We should be afraid of nothing if we saw any appearance of recruits or subsistence for the Imperialists which are in the Montferrat and Modenese. The hard usage, which the French have shewn to the Duke of Modena and his subjects, did alarm all the Princes of Italy. We are now told that the French King has offered to put the places of that Duke in séquestre into the hands of the Pope. We are very glad to hear that the Queen's fleet will be in these seas this summer; and that it will be there pretty early, and with some red coats aboard: we hope it will have orders to do something. If the Queen or his Royal Highness, the Prince, will give me any commission to go aboard it, I shall not be able to do any thing, but I can see what they do. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, $\frac{4}{15}$th February, $170\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

I have now received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 4th January, which came out of its course. You will please to think that "Count Maffei does always "speak as he ought; but I hope you will not believe every "thing which he says, I do reckon that his Royal Highness "will have 15,000 men this summer of his own troops, and "about 1500 Vaudois. I wish they may be more. General "Arnaud, with his brigade, is not yet come: and, indeed, he "is neither so discreet, nor so honest as he should be. Your "Lordship will perceive, by what I have already wrote to you, "that we can hope no good from the Elector of Bavaria. How-"ever, I think I have found a way to write to his Electoral

"Highness to offer him the Queen's friendship, her mediation, "her guarantee, and her Exchequer, though I fear all is too "little, because I fear he carries his thoughts very far and "very high; and I wish he may not have corrupted some of "the Emperor's greatest Generals, by giving them hopes of "glorious shares in a new system to be made of the Empire. "These are only my fears; because I cannot account other-"wise for the conduct of some great men."

I have received the bills which my Lord Treasurer was pleased to send me for 200,000 crowns, which I shall give to the Treasurer of his Royal Highness before I sleep, besides the 150,000 crowns which I gave him so soon as I arrived. I shall then have paid 350,000 crowns before the States have given one penny, who have only yet sent bills to their minister for 10,000 crowns. "My man from Switzerland has "given me his resolutions in writing, which I have commu-"nicated to his Royal Highness, who does highly approve of "them. I dare not venture to send them for fear of accidents; "for nothing can make them useful, but the utmost secrecy. "The substance of them is, that he will go with 500 men, and "land on the coasts of Languedoc, whence he may join the "Cevennois. These 500 men must have a great number of "officers, and more arms than they can use themselves. His "Royal Highness will give me the men, and I can find the "officers. We shall want some commissions, and I desire "your Lordship would send me two commissions in blank for "two Colonels, as many for Lieutenant-Colonels, and Majors, "for 20 Captains, as many Lieutenants and Ensigns. We "shall get as many from the States, and some from the Em-"peror. What we want most are two frigates for their trans-"portation. If the Queen pleases to send us two light frigates, "very clean, of 20 or 30 guns, with all the despatch imagina-"ble to Villa-Franca, to follow such orders as they may re-"ceive from the Duke of Savoy or from me; and if my Lord "Treasurer will trust me with so much of the Queen's money "as shall be absolutely necessary, I will take care of the rest "as well as I can. The Envoy of Holland does write to the "States to the same purpose, and I hope they will concur in "half the expence: but a frigate will not come in time from "their Admiralties, so I desire two from England. If I can-"not have two frigates, we would be content with one frigate "and a brigantine: but we earnestly desire they may be at

"Villa-Franca in the month of May. The Duke of Savoy "has no arms to spare, so I desire the frigates may bring 500 "fire-locks. and as many bayonets, and about 20 halberts. "The frigates may be ordered to join the Queen's fleet, when "we have done with them. I hope each frigate may bring "two long-boats or pinnaces. We must not stay till the "Queen's fleet does come, for then the coasts will be all "guarded. I hope the officers of these frigates will be fit "for the service. If your Lordship sends me any blank com-"missions, pray let them be on paper, not parchment." One of our parties commanded by Vaubonne has beaten one of the enemy's in the Novarese, and a small party from Montmeillian has defeated double their number in Savoy. Two French men-of-war passed by Nice this week, with about 50 transports towards Final; which we suppose to be filled with recruits, and accoutrements for Mons. Vendômes's army. We wish we had some prospect of the recruits or subsistence of the Imperialists. I have seen letters from Madrid, of the 16th January, which say, King Philip was resolved to go towards Estramadura; that his levies went forward with success, since they had persuaded all the world, that the great hurricane had so dispersed the Queen's fleet, that King Charles could not arrive in Portugal so soon as the French troops would be in Spain. I have seen to day an ugly letter from Marly, of the 4th inst., which says, that a privateer of Brest had followed the Queen's fleet, and picked up a transport-ship, and brought an account that the $\frac{23rd}{12th,}$ the whole fleet was dispersed, and blown into Ireland. I am sorry to see so many people ready to believe this news, which does us harm, though it should not be true. Here is an English physician come from Paris, or rather from St. Germains to settle here; he is but just come, and I can say little of him yet. He has been here formerly, and is esteemed; for which reason I shall be more fearful of him. Our treaty is not yet come back from Vienna, and I fear it will not come to the satisfaction of his Royal Highness a good while. The Emperor has made four new Veltmarischals, of which are Count Guido, and Prince Charles of Vaudemont. The Duke of Mantua is preparing to go to Paris, where he is to have a wife, and heirs, without doubt, to entail a war upon his dominions. The Duchess of Burgundy is now in her sixth month, and it is in earnest. The Queen of Spain does not yet pretend to be a mother. I

am told that several people from the borders of Provence are gone to join the Cevennois; and it is certain if those poor people could be persuaded not to make war upon the priests and the churches, and to talk of nothing but liberty from taxes, and impositions, their party would soon be more formidable. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, 19th February, 1704, N. S.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship the $\frac{1st}{12th,}$ inst. Since then I have received the bills of exchange, which your Lordship was pleased to send me by Mr. Fox, for 200,000 crowns at 4l. 5d money of Piedmont per crown. I gave these bills, the same day that I received them, to the Duke's treasurer; but he would only give me an acquittance for 200,000 crowns, without any consideration of the odd pence. When I saw I could not do better handsomely, I was contented. For the future, when your Lordship pleases to send any bills, if you send 4l. 2d per crown, we shall be satisfied.

Our great treaty is not yet come back from Vienna, and therefore we have made no convention here. When we do make any, I will ascertain the value of a crown to be a rix-dollar, or 50 st. of Holland cour^{t}. money: such as your Lordship pays to all the Queen's northern Pensioners. I have found a sure way of writing to the Elector of Bavaria, and of proffering him all that your Lordship bids me. I do not write to your Lordship what I would; but I say a good deal of it in cipher to my Lord Nottingham. The King of France has published a very bitter manifesto against his Royal Highness by way of a long letter to the Pope. He says several things, related in it, came to his knowledge from the papers which were found in our late King's closet at the time of his death. I cannot but fear that those people who found my Lord Portland's list of tallies, found some other papers, which might be sent to Paris. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 19th February, 170$\frac{5}{4}$, N. S.

My Lord,

—— I have nothing to add to what I have already said to your Lordship concerning "the Elector of Bavaria. As to "the coming of the fleet into these seas, his Royal Highness "began early to press it. I always said it would come, if "there were a design laid to do any thing of moment; but "that it was not worth while to send a great fleet so far with "so much hazard and expense, if it could neither meet the "Queen's friends nor her enemies. I then came by degrees "to the coasts of Provence, where we might do something, "perhaps, if his Royal Highness would send a body of troops "by land from Nice towards Marseilles, to act by land, as the "fleet would move by sea. I have his Royal Highness's "word that he will give us 5 or 6000 men to act that way: "and we have been very busy for this last week in forming "a plan or a disposition which may be practicable, and which "may reach as far as Toulon. I make this to be his Royal "Highness's desire, and the only thing which can hinder the "French from coming from Dauphiné to the gates of Turin: "and, therefore, I say nothing of any intention of the Queen "to purchase this service. I shall come to that at last, when "I cannot do better. I shall still go on with the project which "I opened to your Lordship in my last, and if I can set *mes* "*enfans perdus* ashore before there is any appearance of the "fleet, I hope they will facilitate any greater design. I must "not conceal from your Lordship that we are not without some "apprehensions that the French may attack Nice, and then "the foundation of all our projects will be gone." I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr Hill to the Envoyé of Bavière.

A Turin, ce 20e February, 1704.

Monsieur,

Je suis bien faché de ce que je n'ay pas eu la liberté de vous voir ici à Turin, comme je l'avois fort souhaité. Mais je ne puis vous sçavoir partir de cette cour, sans vous prier de me mettre très humblement aux pieds de S.A.E. J'avois conceu une si parfaite vénération pour la personne de ce Prince, et une si haute idée de son mérite, pendant le tems que j'

avois l'honneur de servir auprés de lui en Flandres, que tout le mal qu'il nous a fait, ne pourroit pas les diminuer. Je ne croyois pas à la verité que S.A.E. deut jamais tirer son epée contre l'Empereur et l'Empire ; ni qu' il eut poussé ses ressentiments si loin. Il est encore impossible à nous autres bons gens de croire que S.A.E. veuille porter les choses à la dernière extremité. C'est pour cela que j'ay eu ordre de la Reine ma Maîtresse de chercher touts les moyens possibles pour offrir à S.A.E. son Amitié et celle des Etats-Généraux, avec la médiation de ces deux puissances envers S.M. Imp^le^ et leur garantie dans tout ce que cette cour pourroit faire ou promettre à S.A.E. J'ay des pouvoirs assez amples pour engager S.M.B. et les Etats-Généraux à faire tout ce que S.A.E. pourroit demander d'eux. Je vous prie de faire entendre ceci à votre Maître, et que je suis prêt à recevoir ici l'honneur de ses commandements, ou de les aller trouver à Gennes, ou à Venice, ou ailleurs ; quoique je pourrois les recevoir dans cette ville avec tout le secret imaginable. Je vous souhaite un bon et heureux voyage, et vous prie de m' honorer d'un mot de réponse, quand il en sera tems. Je suis, &c.

A M. L'Envoyé de Bavière. HILL.

From Mr Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, 26th February, 1704, N. S.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter of the 28th January, and though I am truly sorry that I did draw bills on Mr. Fox, to the value 150 thousand crowns which I advanced to his Royal Highness, yet I cannot but hope that you will please to excuse me, because I only obeyed the orders which you gave me the 23rd November, and because I really found his Royal Highness in distress ; and because I had never heard of any design to make any remittances till I received Mr. Lowndes's letter of December 17th, which did not arrive here till I had given out my bills ; and because the said letter only promised me credit, not bills of exchage. We are also still within the obligations of the treaty, which does promise an advance of a 100,000, and 80,000 per month, of which two months are always to be paid per advance. His Royal Highness has already told me that we are in

arrear, and perhaps Count Maffei will tell your Lordship so: wherefore I must tell your Lordship that no treaty is yet signed or ratified. The Duke and his Général de Finances are come to an agreement here with Lullin and Nicholas, who engage to pay here 160,000 crowns, the beginning of every two months, and are to commence the 3rd of April; for which sums they are to receive the value at London and the Hague; they are to receive 50st. at the Hague for a crown, and I have promised that your Lordship will pay 57d. English per crown, as was paid to Galdy; so 4 crowns will cost the Queen 19s.; which is cheaper, and better for other reasons than to send the Queen's money to Holland for the Duke, as these Merchants did desire. Thy are obliged to pay here for the 57d. English, or 50st. Dutch, only 4l. Piedmont: but the Duke has his money here, perhaps before they receive it below. I have valued the Queen's goodness, and your Lordship's zeal, to have paid so much money to his Royal Highness before the treaty is signed. But I fear these payments will not hasten the signing of it. I do not judge between the Emperor and his Royal Highness; but I did venture to tell the ministers here, so soon as I came, that it would be necessary to have a treaty signed; if it is so, my Lord Nottingham will please to tell Count Maffei as much. What I would say more to your Lordship shall go in cipher to my Lord Nottingham. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 26th February, 170$\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship, the 15th and 19th inst., and I hope my letters will find the way to the Cockpit, though they must be long upon an uncertain road. I will repeat, however, what I said the 15th in short, for fear of accidents. "The French Gentleman, whom I "brought from Switzerland, will venture himself at the head "of 400 or 500 men to be set ashore on the coasts of Langue-"doc, where he has some intelligences, and if he cannot make "an insurrection amongst the catholics he will go and join "the Cevennois. The Duke of Savoy will help us to the "men, and I can find officers enough amongst those which I

"brought from Holland, and whom his Royal Highness has "placed, for the present, in his own troops. I desired some "blank commissions on paper from your Lordship for two "Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels, and Majors, and for 20 Cap- "tains and subalterns. I desired two light frigates to take up "my little army at Villa-Franca in May, or sooner if it may "be. I desired leave to venture some of the Queen's money, "as far as is absolutely necessary on this service, which will "indeed properly come within the destination of the 200,000 "gilders, which you allowed me to lay out, by your letters of "the 2nd and 6th of Nov. I will take care of every thing "else, as well I can; in which I shall have the concurrence "and assistance of the Envoy of Holland."

The treaty is not yet come back from Vienna, and, therefore, his Royal Highness is sending the Marquis de Prié thither, a person of great merit, and who had long resided there, to press the despatch of it. He is likewise to labour hard for the recruits and subsistence of the Emperor's troops. He will also be able to give his master a perfect account of the situation of affairs in Hungary, upon which the hope which we have of recruits and subsistence does depend. Count Guido and the Prince de Vaudemont are now here, and his Royal Highness does consult them daily upon the dispositions for the campaign. We dare think of little I see in Lombardy, but to retrench and secure ourselves. I wish there were many such Generals as these two are; but we must part with one of them to take care of the army on the Secchia: and, I believe, now it will be the Prince of Vaudemont who is to go thither. By the last advices from Languedoc the Camisards were got into the Vivarez, where they have found many friends. I think now, my Lord, that we must reckon these poor people amongst the Queen's allies, and the cheapest of them. Most of the French troops, which were in Dauphiné and Savoy, and gave us some disquiet here, are now marched down towards the Rhone, either with an intention to destroy these poor people, or to be nearer to the frontiers of Spain. I shall be able, I hope, by the next post to send your Lordship a "project of what the Queen's fleet may be able to do this "summer upon the coasts of Provence."

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 28th Jan. I had been informed of the "Elector of Bavaria's "anger against the French on account of the Prussian prison-

"ers; but I fear it was all affected, and done by collusion be-
"tween the Elector and the Marshal de Marcin. However,
"we lose no opportunity of making all possible applications
"to the Elector, and I have offered him the Queen's media-
"tion, guarantee, and exchequer, as I told your Lordship in
"my letter, of the $\frac{4}{15}$th inst. I leave it now to your judgment,
"if I should not have power or order from her Majesty to
"make good these promises, in case his Electoral Highness
"should send somebody to me" as I have desired he would
please to do. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 29th February, 1704, N. S.

My Lord,

Since my last letter, which I had the honour to write to your Lordship the 26th instant, "His Royal Highness has
"communicated to me a project, the substance whereof is to
"this purpose: to hinder the French from making very
"powerful attempts this summer to drive the Germans out of
"Italy, and his Royal Highness out of Piedmont, it is pro-
"posed that the Queen's fleet should come into these seas
"with 5000 landsmen of regular troops on board: these
"troops to be joined by four Imperial battalions, and four
"more out of the Duke's troops, with a 1000 horse. These
"will make a body of ten thousand men effective, which are
"to march into Provence as far as they can, perhaps to Tou-
"lon. I am fond enough, you may be sure, my Lord, of any
"design which looks this way; but this is clogged with one
"article, which supposes that the fleet must take up about
"6 or 7000 German recruits on the coasts of Tuscany, and
"bring them to Nice, without which I fear the Duke cannot
"spare us the 5000 men. These recruits are also yet to come
"from Germany to the Secchia, and are to get from the Sec-
"chia to some port on the coasts of Tuscany as well as they
"can; and because there is yet no way found out to get any
"recruits to those of the Emperor's troops which are in Pied-
"mont, I fear all this project is laid to employ the fleet on
"that service, which is, indeed, very material for us here.
"I have ventured to assure his Royal Highness and Count
"Staremberg, that when the Queen's fleet does come into

"these seas, it will give convoy to any barks or ships which "can be hired to transport these recruits from any port to "Nice; but I thought the men-of-war would be too full to "carry recruits, and not be able to come near enough to the "shore to take them in. I am also afraid these ten thousand "men will not be sufficient to do what we desire in Provence, "considering what troops the enemies have thereabouts. I "have therefore desired that this project may be sent to the "Count de Maffei," who will wait upon your Lordship with it, and then you will please to give me your commands upon it. You may chance to send me those commands by Count Maffei himself, who is not to stay long at London.

I send your Lordship here a copy of the last accounts which we have received of the Cevennois. We are still assured, that the greatest part of the troops which were in Dauphiné, are marched towards Languedoc, and that twenty battalions, with sixteen squadrons of them, are to march for Spain. We are likewise told, that other troops are coming from Alsace into Dauphiné. We are told, that some recruits are coming already for the Germans which are upon the Secchia; but they are in a miserable condition there for want of subsistence. Those who are with us here in Piedmont are in a better, for his Royal Highness gives them bread and forage, and they pick up some contributions in the Montferrat. The treaty is not yet come back from Vienna; and, I believe, it will, or will not, come back to his Royal Highness's satisfaction, according to the success which the Imperial councils will have in Hungary. I have not the honour of any commands from your Lordship since the 28th of January. I fear I was mistaken when I told your Lordship that some of the Camisards were got into the Vivarez, since some later advices from thence say no such thing. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 4th March, 1704, N. S.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship the last post; and I gave you some account "of a project which "his Royal Highness had made for the operations of the "Queen's fleet this summer. I have now got the article

"mended, which would have employed the men-of-war for "the transportation of the Imperial recruits, and Count Maf- "fei will, I hope, receive it now so minuted, as to expect no "more from the fleet on that account, but that it shall cover "and secure the transports." I wish it was come to that my Lord: for I yet see no great hopes of these recruits "coming "to Revero, or the Secchia; nor do I well see how they will "get from thence to any port on the coasts of Tuscany, nor "how they will embark there securely, nor how they will get "transport-ships to bring them forward." Yet we must conquer all these difficulties in order "to recruit the troops which "are with the Maréchal de Staremberg;" or else we shall labour under greater. The Marquis del Burgho has sent to his Royal Highness a project, concerted at the Hague, "for the support "of the Cevennois, &c.;" which I suppose to have been communicated to your Lordship. It is founded upon "a levy of "3000 men to be assembled near the Duke's dominions, of "the French refugees, Vaudois, Swiss, or others, which are "to be raised, and maintained by the Queen and the States; "and these 3000 men are to march over the Alps, through "Dauphiné, cross the Rhone, into the Cevennes. I wish to "God they were." I say nothing against that, or any other proposal which can be made for "the relief of those poor "people. But I must advise your Lordship that it is scarce "possible to find in Germany, or in Switzerland, 3000 of "those zealous people in three years' time. I speak by ex- "perience, my Lord. I brought almost 60 officers, as your "Lordship knows, into the Duke's service, but they did not "bring one soldier with them. I gave money to Mons. Ar- "naud for himself, and all the Vaudois officers I could find "in Germany, or Switzerland, and two pistoles in hand for "every French [refugee], or Vaudois, who would come to "serve his Royal Highness in the valleys, where they have "pay, and bread, and arms, and all the booty which they can "get. I left credit at Francfort, and at Schaffhausen, and at "Lausanne, for all those who would come, and have got an "*étape* settled à la Cité d' Aoust to carry them into the val- "leys. All this has not yet brought us 150 men: though "their condition is to be much better than that of soldiers in "regular troops." There are in Holland two or three battalions of refugees; and if one or two more could be raised in England and Ireland "for this service, and sent by the fleet,

"we should have the use of them much sooner than it will be "possible to raise them any other way. His Royal Highness "is of this opinion, and depends much more upon the suc- "cours which he expects by the fleet, and from the use "which may be made of them, according to his own project, "which Count Maffei will give your Lordship. If we should "be successful upon the coasts of Provence and Languedoc "we should give great ease to the Camisards by so seasonable "a diversion; and if there were any French battalions aboard "the fleet they might force their way up to the mountains, as "I hope the 4 or 500 will do, for whom I desired your Lord- "ship's assistance" in my letter of the $\frac{4}{15}$th past.

We have a courier from Vienna who has brought an ample patent for his Royal Highness to be Généralissime of the Emperor's forces, with instructions for his Royal Highness, and orders to all the Emperor's officers to obey him. This courier has not brought back the treaty, nor great hopes that it will come to the satisfaction of his Royal Highness: the great difficulty is about Vigevano and its little territory, which reaches up to the Tesino, and is within 20 miles of Milan. The Duke does insist hard upon having this; and the Imperial ministers seem yet as positive not to grant it. Each side has its reasons. But in the mean time we have no treaty made yet. Some letters from Toulon and Marseilles say, that great provisions are making there; which may, perhaps, be only for the transportation of their recruits to Italy. Other letters say twelve ships are gone out of Toulon, the least of 60 guns, and that twelve more are cleaned there, for which they want seamen. I cannot but be in pain for our Turkey-ships, which I reckon are to be coming by about this time. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 7th March, 1704, N. S.

My Lord,

I have not the honour of any letters from your Lordship since the 28th January. Our treaty is not yet come back from Vienna; and I cannot but think, that I was not much in the wrong, when I endeavoured to get a short convention made, according to the project which I sent your

Lordship, the 1st February. We are now in the sixth month since his Royal Highness's declaration, and, consequently, under an obligation so long for the payment of subsidies, which ought to be warranted by some treaty. However, since I received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 14th January, I expect with great patience the return of the treaty from Vienna.

"We are told, that the Elector Palatine has sent to make "some offers to the Elector of Bavaria, but that he was an- "swered with great fierceness and contempt. I have a mind "to say something to your Lordship concerning the Veneti- "ans. The letters from Vienna, Paris, and Rome, suppose "the Republic has some inclinations to enter into the alliance. "His Royal Highness has an agent at Venice, who tells him "as much. I have, therefore, desired his Royal Highness to "send orders to his agent there, to inform some one person of "credit and reputation in the Senate, that I have orders from "the Queen about me, which I shall be ready to communi- "cate here, to any body the Senate can trust; or that I am "ready to go to Venice, as soon and as privately as is possible." I must on this occasion take notice to your Lordship, that the "Republic agrees with the sense of all mankind, to hate and "fear the French." But they still resolve to be as much "afraid of the Emperor as they were 100 years agone. They are afraid "that King Charles" has made some private transaction with his brother, "the King of the Romans, by "which the State of Milan is to remain annexed to the he- "reditary countries of the house of Austria. And this fear "does alienate the hearts and affections of that Republic, and "of all the Princes in Italy, from the Emperor's interests" more than I can express. I believe I may venture to say, that the man is yet to be born, on this side of the Alps, who does "not desire that the Duchy of Milan should remain a "province to the crown of Spain," whoever sits upon the throne. If the question is put, "whether the French or the "Germans should be masters of that Duchy, I believe the "Republic of Venice" would rather choose the Devil. We have fresh alarms from the frontiers, as if the French were preparing to besiege Nice. I have prevailed with his Royal Highness, who has given orders for adding some fortifications to the port of Villa-Franca. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 11th March, 1704, N.S.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 8th February, and if your Lordship has received all the letters I have wrote concerning the "Elector of Bavaria" I believe I need say no more. I wish it were possible to form a battalion of refugees time enough to send them with the fleet. His Royal Highness would receive them willingly into his pay, from the day they should be landed at Villa-Franca; and till then I hope they might be useful aboard the fleet. I shall trouble your Lordship no more to day, but to assure you that I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Duke of Marlborough.

Turin, 11th March, 1704, N.S.

My Lord,

I delivered to his Royal Highness the letter which your Grace was pleased to send me for him, the 14th February. I found his Royal Highness very much delighted with the assurances which your Grace has given him, that the Queen's fleet will come into these seas, and that you will begin early to make a vigorous campaign in the low countries. "The disorders at Vienna, the ill prospect which we have "upon the Rhine, and the Danube, the number of our ene-"mies in Italy, would make a brave Prince serious sometimes." I think it necessary to shew to your Grace as plainly as I can the condition we are in. "Comte Staremberg brought us "about 10,000 men effective, fit for service, and fit to take "the field this campaign:" to these his Royal Highness will be able to add "sixteen or seventeen battalions, and 3000 horse "and dragoons of his own troops. These will make together "about 15,000 foot, and 8000 horse," to be commanded by the Duke himself, and the Maréchal de Staremberg. "There "are about 9000 foot, and 11,000 horse left at Revero and "Mirandola, behind the Secchia, effective men, fit for service," which the young Prince of Vaudemont is going to command. The enemies have in Lombardy 80 battalions, and 100 squadrons, but most of them so weak that they want 16,000 recruits: which we are now told are ready to embark at Toulon

and Marseilles. We yet see no hopes "either of recruits or "of subsistence for our Germans," excepting 1000 horses which are coming. We cannot therefore "at present form "any great designs. We prepare for a defensive campaign," which we shall make well enough, except the "enemies can "have another army to bring upon us over the mountains," as they lately made us believe they would do, by the "prepara- "tions and magazines" which they were making in "Dauphiné "and Savoy." But I hope the Queen's allies in Portugal "and in the Cevennes" will save us from that danger. If our "recruits can come from Germany, and the Queen's fleet "come into these seas with some redcoats to be set ashore," we may hope to attempt something, not otherwise. I am verily persuaded, that if "the Duke of Savoy had not declared for "the Emperor, the Germans would have been driven out of "Italy this summer." And I am as well assured, that if "the "Queen and my Lord Treasurer had not made more haste "than the States do, to assist his Royal Highness, he could "neither have found horses, recruits, clothes, nor arms for "his new levies." We have picked up about 60,000 crowns by contributions in the Montferrat, which his Royal Highness leaves wholly to Comte Staremberg: and I fear "the Emperor "will leave these troops to be subsisted by his Royal Highness "out of the Queen's subsidies." When we have any better news I shall send it to your Grace with more pleasure; but I must always beg leave to say what I think is exactly the truth. I am, &c.

To the Lord Duke of Marlborough. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the $\frac{3rd}{14th}$ March, $170\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 8th February; and I am obliged to your Lordship's goodness for excusing my unlucky forwardness in supplying the Duke of Savoy's occasions. I hope I shall be excused by Mr. Lowndes also, when he sees the enclosed account, by which the Queen is far from losing £1000. I must confess to your Lordship, very naturally, that I did believe, and I do believe, his Royal Highness both wanted, and deserved, all we could do for him; but we have yet no treaty made to

justify these payments. The great treaty is not yet come back from Vienna; and when it does come, I perceive it will not be to the satisfaction of his Royal Highness: and how long it may be going between Turin and Vienna, and how oft, before both parties are satisfied, I cannot tell. I should have been pretty earnest for making a short convention here—so many men for so much money—if my Lord Nottingham had not bid me have patience till the treaty is finished at Vienna, which is just what his Royal Highness desired. I have obedience and complaisance enough to keep me quiet. The States are not so generous as the Queen; nor is their minister here so patient as I am. I have answered the rest of your Lordship's letter in several of mine to my Lord Nottingham; and I am glad to perceive that my proposition was like to meet with your Lordship's approbation. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

	£.	s.	d.
The 150,000 crowns paid at Turin by Mr. Hill to his Royal Highness, for which he drew bills on Mr. Fox, cost the Queen.....	36,145	10	0
150,000 crowns remitted to Mr. Hill in Galdy's bills, the 21st December, at 57d per piece.....	35,625	0	0
The difference is....	520	10	0
The 150,000 crowns, drawn hence, were received here a month before the bills were payable in London: interest of £36,145 10s. for one month at 2 per cent is.....	180	0	0
The 150,000 crowns remitted at 15 days, and at six weeks after sight; the bills arrived at Turin the $\frac{3rd}{14th}$ February, payable at a medium the $\frac{3rd}{14th}$ March: if the money was paid at London in December for the bills, which were not payable at Turin till the $\frac{3rd}{14th}$ March, the interest of £35,625 for 2 months.....	356	0	0
.....[1]	536	0	0

[1] A word, or two, is here omitted, the manuscript being injured.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, the $\frac{3rd}{14th}$ March, $170\frac{3}{4}$.

My Lord,

If the accounts which we receive sometimes from Toulon and Marseilles are true, the French do pretend to have a fleet in these seas this summer; but it cannot be very considerable unless they bring a squadron from West France. They are busy now, we are told, both at Toulon and Marseilles: and we are not out of pain for Nice and Villa-Franca. Though I do believe, all that bustle is only for the transportation of their recruits into Italy. Those troops, which hanged over our heads in Dauphiné and Savoy, are now all retired towards the Rhone, and Mons. le Maréchal de Tessé, who was to command them, is gone to Grenoble. Some other troops, which were ordered this way from Alsace, have received contrary orders, and come no nearer to us. It is only at Rome, at present, where the French make war upon his Royal Highness. The French King's letter to the Pope begot a letter from the Pope to his Royal Highness, recommending to him the peace of Italy. At the same time the Court of Rome threatens to make a spiritual war upon his Royal Highness, upon the account of ecclesiastical immunities, and privileges. We trouble ourselves no more now about the neutrality of Savoy, which the Swiss did demand, which the French did refuse, and that is all. We have had better success with the Popish Cantons, who have signed a capitulation with his Royal Highness, by virtue of which the drums are now beating there for the raising of 4000 men, which may be of use here against the next year.

"Our treaty is not yet come back from Vienna, and when "it does come, I fear it will be so little to the satisfaction of "his Royal Highness, that it will be sent back again. If it "should be otherwise, the minister of the States has not pow-"er to sign it here. It must be sent to Holland, and com-"municated to the several Provinces, and be ratified by them. "In the mean time his Royal Highness has no treaty yet "signed with any of the allies. I must confess the devil does "sometimes tempt me to be fearful and jealous of strange "things; but I get the better of him. The Duke of Mantua's "journey to France for a wife and children disturbs me, be-"cause the session of the Montferrat becomes much more pre-

"carious by it: and I fear his Royal Highness will not like "it so well as he did: and, perhaps, he may desire to exchange "it for something else which the Emperor will not willingly "part with." I have already told your Lordship that a regiment of refugees brought aboard the fleet will be welcome here, if they can do nothing better: and if there were two battalions they would still be more welcome than one. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 21st March, 1704.

My Lord,

I have not the honour of any letter from you since the 8th Feb. Since my last of the $\frac{3rd}{14th}$ instant, the Comte de Briançon is arrived here, from his residence with the Elector of Bavaria. He gives us such strange accounts of the continual ill usage and mortifications which that Prince receives from the French, and of the way by which he does shew his sense and resentments of those indignities, viz.; by tears, lamentations, and submissions, that the sullen adherence of his Electoral Highness to his engagements with the two crowns seems almost unaccountable. The wild ambition of this Prince, who hopes to tear the Empire in pieces, and to make himself King of Franconia, and God knows what; the dissipation of his own revenues, and the necessity, under which he labours, of subsisting by the subsidies which he receives from France, and the Spanish Netherlands; the desperate extremity to which he has drove things with the Emperor, seem to be the most powerful reasons of such a disagreeable perseverance. The treaty is not yet come back from Vienna, and though I do expect it with great tranquility, since I am under orders so to do, yet I cannot but observe that it is twenty-four weeks since his Royal Highness has declared war with France. It is ten weeks since I am here, with a minister from the States-General, yet his Royal Highness is under no obligations with any of the allies. I have, therefore, endeavoured once or twice to make some such provisional convention, as may at least justify the payment of the subsidies, which are already received by his Royal Highness, and which he still demands; but I could not prevail. I do indeed believe that his Royal Highness will not enter into any engagements with any body, till

he is entirely satisfied by the Emperor, for fear the Emperor should be less easy in his concessions, if he saw his Royal Highness once engaged. I must say that he is increasing his forces and preparing for the campaign, as if he would deserve all the allies could do for him, and trust to their generosity. I am forced to approve of this gallant, romantic, way, since I am commanded so to do, by your Lordship's letter, of January 14th: and I will let things *rest till the treaty is finally adjusted between the Emperor and the Duke.* I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, $\frac{14}{25}$th March, 1704.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 15th February. I do expect the return of the treaty from Vienna; and, when it comes, I will sign it, if his Royal Highness does desire it; but the minister from the States will not sign it, for such are his orders. It will be to no purpose for me to insist upon a prohibition of commerce with France, when that treaty comes back signed by the Emperor, and to be signed here in the Queen's name. All I shall obtain in favour of our trade, is to get the duties upon our manufactures brought down to a proportion with those which are upon the French, which is more than we could obtain all the last war. This will not be sufficient encouragement for our merchants during the war, whilst the charge of freight and insurance will make our draperies dearer here than those which come from France, and which are made on purpose for the use of the soldiers and people here, and brought in by a French merchant, who has been long established here for that purpose. I shall obtain as little in favour of the Vaudois, since her Majesty is pleased to think there is no need of a particular treaty. My Lord, I find an order in my instructions to endeavour by all ways to hinder the Genoese from remitting money to the French in Lombardy, &c. I do not find I can do any thing at present in this matter. The Republic can scarce hinder their bankers from carrying on their trade, in which they are willing to observe an exact neutrality, and furnish as much money for the allies as they do for our

enemies. His Royal Highness has borrowed from thence; part of the Queen's money came that way to this place; and they are ready to answer any bills which might come upon them from Vienna. However, when the Queen's fleet does come, if it is not such an innocent harmless fleet as came last summer, we may find something to say to those people, at least in the Emperor's name, to whom they did pay contributions in the last war in Italy, about 100,000 crowns per ann. I am informed, my Lord, that there are four battalions of the Queen's subjects in the army commanded by the Duke de Vendôme, and six more in the army commanded by the Maréchal de Marcin. These poor devils are put upon the most desperate occasions, where they behave themselves too well; yet they are ill used in all respects. These battalions are recruited by deserters from my Lord Duke of Marlborough's army; at least all who desert from him are sent thither. I do believe, that if the Queen were pleased to issue a proclamation, promising pardon to those who shall leave the French, and a liberty to come home for those who should have come into the service of the allies, it would be easy to disperse copies of those proclamations amongst them, which might have good effect; and yet none of them would get home to do any harm. The physician who came hither from St. Germains is called Sommers. He is a man of learning, an Englishman, he says, from Exeter; but he is of Irish religion, and temper, and I cannot be afraid of him. I think we shall hang an Irish monk here, for endeavouring to debauch some of his countrymen out of the Duke's service. I do not find that the French do make any considerable magazines nearer to our frontiers than at Gap in Dauphiné. The new levies for his Royal Highness go on with success in Switzerland, especially in the Canton of Bern, from whence 5 or 600 are already come. We are made believe that Chateaurenaud[1] is coming to Toulon, and that the Count de Thoulouse is going to Brest; but it is very visible that the French do alter their measures very oft of late. I am also assured that the funds and the credit of France for the subsistence of their armies do begin to fail. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

[1] An Admiral and Marshal of France.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, $\frac{17}{28}$th March, 1704.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 25th past. I am sorry to find by it, that Count Maffei and Galdi were agreed to surprise your Lordship's generosity. It cannot be otherwise, since they could say so false a thing as that I had employed the greatest part of the 200,000 crowns, which your Lordship did remit to me for the reimplacing the 150,000 crowns which I had taken up here. I should, perhaps, have done so, if I could have found the Queen's account in it; but these 200,000 crowns being remitted at 15 days, and at 6 weeks after sight, and the bills not coming to my hands till after the 150,000 crowns had been long paid, and the 200,000 crowns being likewise due upon the foot of the treaty, and the merchants, who had furnished the 150,000 crowns, being not to be satisfied unless they were paid their provisions and the interest of their money which they had advanced, I did resolve immediately to pay the whole 200,000 crowns with the best grace I could to his Royal Highness; besides the 150,000 crowns which I had paid before, and so I did, and I gave notice thereof to my Lord Nottingham the $\frac{4}{15}$th February. You will also perceive, my Lord, that there was no such drawback made here, by the orders which Count Maffei received from hence to solicit your Lordship for the payment of 36,666$\frac{2}{3}$ crowns, which are all that his Royal Highness does pretend to become due from the Queen the 2nd April.

I shall be glad to see Flotard, my Lord, though I fear I shall not be much the better for him. He has found himself an employment, and will be willing enough to come hither; because it is out of his way. We have three or four of his comrades here, who set out from the Hague about this time was twelvemonth, and they can get no farther. However, nothing can divert me from trying all ways to assist the Queen's cheapest allies. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, $\frac{17}{28}$th March, 1704.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter,

of the 22nd February, which confirms me in my resolutions to expect with great tranquility the return of the treaty from Vienna; but I shall have no hope of getting the trade between these countries and France interdicted, or of procuring any new graces for the Vaudois, though I will continue my solicitations. We are very much delighted with what your Lordship says concerning "Sir G. Rooke, and the orders he "has to come to our assistance, if Nizza shall be besieged. "The Duke has ordered a brigantine to be kept ready at "Villa-Franca, by which I shall despatch an express to Sir "G. Rooke at Lisbon to require his help, so soon as we are "sure to be attacked at Villa-Franca, of which we are yet in "doubt. I am glad Sir George has his orders, and I will "send to meet him both at Genoa and Villa-Franca: or I will "rather go meet him there, if you will give me leave." We are just now advised, by an express from Nice, that the enemies have sixteen thousand men in Provence, twenty galleys ready at Marseilles, and eight great ships ready at Toulon, with all which they pretend to come and attack Nice and Villa-Franca. "His Royal Highness desires me to send to "Sir G. Rooke for help according to your Lordship's orders, "and I shall send to morrow, if this alarm is confirmed. If "the Queen's fleet can come, it will break all the measures "which the enemies can take, either against Nice, or any "where else upon the coasts of Spain, with these eight ships "and twenty galleys."

The young Prince of Vaudemont applied himself last week to the Senate at Genoa, desiring they would assist the Emperor, either by lending him money on the security of some Imperial fiefs, which lie near them, or by an absolute purchase of those fiefs, or any other way they could propose. They rejected his proposals *rudement*. I have desired the Emperor's commission for Sir G. Rooke, such as I think was given the last war to my Lord Orford, to require contributions for the Emperor from all the Italian *feudataires*, and I hope Sir George Rooke will have the Queen's orders to be as mischievous and wicked as he can be.

The Marquis de Prié sets out to morrow for Vienna, to solicit the conclusion of the treaty. I believe he has work for two months at least. We have surprised a battalion of the enemies, and 300 militia in Chaumont. I have the greater

satisfaction in this, because I did earnestly solicit his Royal Highness for these orders. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Sir. G. Rooke.

Turin, 29th March, 1704, S.N.

Sir,

I received a letter from my Lord Nottingham the last post, of which I send you a copy here. I am now desired by his Royal Highness the Duke of Savoy, to require your succour and assistance for his town and castle of Nice, and the port of Villa-Franca, which are going to be besieged by the French. Their troops are assembled at Antibes, about 16,000. Their galleys are ready, at Marseilles, about twenty, and six or eight ships are coming from Toulon, with about four or five bomb-vessels. If you receive this advice, and can be ready to come away quickly, we hope you will come time enough to save our places, in which there is a very good garrison; and, perhaps, to destroy the enemy's ships and galleys, which will be as well. His Royal Highness will write to the Kings of Spain and Portugal, I believe, and to you. The enclosed letter to Mons. Callemberg is from the Envoy of the States-General, who is at this Court. I am, &c.

To Sir G. Rooke. HILL.

Mem. Mr. Hill sent duplicates to Sir G. Rooke, &c., April 1st, 1704. Mr. Hill answered Mr. Stepney's letter of the $\frac{2nd}{13th}$ March, by way of Francfort, under cover de Mons. Behagel, March the 29th.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, April 1st 1704. S.N.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's commands in favour of the King of Prussia's ministers, and shall correspond with them very readily in every thing which may any way relate to their master's service. The treaty is now come back once more from Vienna; but not yet to the satisfaction of his Royal Highness, who does require a positive promise of the Vigivenasco, or an equivalent; and will not be

contented with the general and loose terms in which the article is expressed which relates to that matter. I have laboured all I could with his Royal Highness, and so has the States' minister, that he would sign this treaty provisionally, and send it to be ratified at London, and the Hague, and leave the Marquis de Prié to get what more he can from the Emperor at Vienna. We had as good have said nothing; and I am very quiet, because I am under orders to be so. I have received the honour of your Lordship's letters, of the 29th Feb., and the 3rd March, of which I shall observe every line. "I have never had Toulon out of my thoughts, since I came "on this side the Alps. I think I could be content to lie "seven years in purgatory to see it in flames; but I never "could yet perceive his Royal Highness sincerely inclined to "look that way. In plain English, I fear he will not put "himself out of a state of grace, nor commit such a sin as "will never be forgiven to him. I never yet found encouragement enough to offer the Queen's fifty thousand pounds for "this service;" but I will now offer them the first opportunity I can have, since you seem to command it. I had dressed my batteries last night, but the present situation of affairs at "Nice and Villa-Franca made it improper to say much. If "Sir G. Rooke should come time enough to relieve us at "Villa-Franca, the only place where we can meet him and "embark our troops, I hope we may do something. If we "lose that post, we can do nothing that way; especially if "the enemies keep the fifteen or sixteen thousand men in Provence," which are now there. I shall, perhaps, say more to your Lordship, by the next post. "The Genoese seem to "observe no measures, by furnishing shipping to the enemies "for the transportation of their recruits and ammunition, &c. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 4th April, 1704, S.N.

My Lord,

I have not found it seasonable, since my last, to press his Royal Highness upon the subject of your Lordship's letter, of the 29th February; because he is very busy for the security of Nice and Villa-Franca, and for making an incur-

sion into Savoy with seven battalions and 200 dragoons, or hussars, with which we hope to drive the few French, which are left, out of that country; or oblige them to bring their forces back again from Provence. The last is what I do desire most, for our own reasons: but if his Royal Highness can recover Savoy, he hopes to engage the Swiss to guard it for the future, by some of their troops, which the Duke will pay out of the revenues of the country. We shall find our account even in this, especially if any thing can happen to engage the Swiss to be surly and froward enough, because his Royal Highness will get something from his revenues in Savoy, and because our best way into France, if we are able to go thither, is through Dauphiné, if we should be so unfortunate as to lose Nice. I think I have told your Lordship that orders have been given for the exchange of the Ambassadors who were detained *de part et d'autre*. His Royal Highness has communicated to us some letters by which it is said that there are great dispositions at Versailles to give all manner of satisfaction to his Royal Highness, &c; but he has made us all the most solemn and serious protestations imaginable, that he will never abandon the interests of the allies *qu'il y restera même quand on voudroit le chasser à coups de baton*. Count D' Aversberg sends back his treaty to day to Vienna, and his Royal Highness will once more try to have it in his own terms. I am well enough contented, though we make no treaty, so long as we do make war. But whether it is for want of a treaty or for want of money, the States-General run apace in arrears with the subsidies, which they ought to pay on the foot of the treaty, according to which they should have paid now the beginning of this month 119,999⅔ crowns, of which they have only paid 68,000. The Maréchal de Staremberg has borrowed here 40,000 pistoles for the present use of the troops under his care. He pays indeed for them; but it is well that he has them. I am told that the Emperor and the Republic of Venice have entered into some new engagements in relation to their common security against the Turks: and I fear all the management, which had been observed of late between those two Courts, is like to end there. Our letters from Nice this morning give an account that the enemies seem to continue their preparations, but are not yet passed the Var: nor do we hear that the troops are embarked which are to attack Villa-Franca by landing there. Flotard is come

hither this morning; but I can say nothing more of him yet. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Stepney.

Turin, 4th April, 1704.

Sir,

I did write to you, the last post, in answer to your letter, of the 13th past. I send this by a courier of Count Aversberg's who carries back the treaty to Vienna, where the Marquis de Prié is to add his skill and his credit to the diligence and application of Count Tarin, in order to get the second article reformed according to his Royal Highness's intentions. Nothing will satisfy us but a positive promise of the Vigevenasco, or an equivalent, in consideration of what his Royal Highness has suffered already, and the hazards he does run since he is engaged in the common cause. I know not whether your ministers or our Court here is to blame. But I am persuaded it is fit we had some treaty made between his Royal Highness and the allies, for many good reasons. The Queen did pay 350,000 crowns so soon as I came hither almost, to enable his Royal Highness to raise, recruit, arm, and clothe his troops. The States are not so forward, having not paid to this day above 68,000 crowns. The want of a treaty serves them for an excuse. We are in expectation of being besieged at Nice and Villa-Franca, which breaks some of our measures. We take this opportunity to make an incursion into Savoy, which has begun very prosperously. Our *mécontents* in the Cevennes are very hearty still, and very successful, and deserve more than our prayers and good wishes. The posts between Vienna and this place are so uncertain, that I shall write to you, for the future, under cover to Mr. Davenant at Francfort, and I desire to receive your letters the same way. I am, &c.

To Mr. Stepney. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

[Turin,] April 8th, 1704, S.N.

My Lord,

I am to thank your Lordship for the honour of your

letter, of the 3rd March; by which you are pleased to approve of the project which I had sent to my Lord Nottingham, and that is enough to engage me in it *corps et ame*. I have seen Mons. Flotard; but for want of the plan which your Lordship was pleased to say you would send to me, or his letter to your Lordship, of February 26th, I know not what he has promised to do. I have had three long conferences with him; have heard all his projects and his papers, and I believe as much as I can of them. All I can learn of him is, that he is an humble servant to Mons. de Miremont; that he does not love my Lord Galloway so much as I do; that he would have an army of refugees raised, to be commanded by the former; that he is sent hither, as he says, *pour entretenir la corrés-pondence avec les Cevennois;* that he would have me give him the value of £200 sterling, because the States did give him 1000 gilders; and that he does not intend to venture himself any farther. However, I shall get all the assistance I can from him, and assist him all I can, for our cause is good; but I would gladly engage him to go once more to his friends, since, he says, he knows the way. If he will go, I shall be tempted to give him money for himself, and perhaps for his friends too. The news we have of them lately is very good, and your Lordship knows well that they are the cheapest allies the Queen has. We have at present a pretty good prospect of our affairs this way. We are pretty well assured, that the 15 or 16,000 men in Provence, which were to besiege Nice and Villa-Franca, are not above 10,000, and we are almost persuaded, that they dare not venture upon us there. In the mean time we hope to drive the few French out of Savoy, which were left there, before the Duke of Vendôme is so strong as to give us any great disquiet on the other side of Piedmont. I leave Count Maffei to follow your Lordship for the 36,666$\frac{2}{3}$ crowns, which would be grown due likewise from the 3rd April to the 2nd May, according to the project of the treaty. Your Lordship will please to observe that he will expect 57d. for a crown, as was paid to Galdi; though the merchants here have only advanced 4 livres, of Piedmont money, for the said 57d., which I valued as a rixdollar, and so do the Duke's bankers. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

	CROWNS.
To be advanced.....	100,000
Subsidies from the 3rd October to December 2nd.	160,000
——— from December 3rd to February 2nd.....	160,000
——— from February 3rd to April 2nd.....	160,000
	580,000
Two-thirds for the Queen's account are	386,666⅔
Paid by Mr. Hill ..... 150,000 }	350,000
Bills remitted..... 200,000 }	
Rest to be paid.....	36,666⅔
2 Months more from April 3rd to June the 2nd }	53,333⅓
for the Queen's account..... {	53,333⅓
	143,333⅓

N. B. Paid April 26th..... 70,000
—— more May 6th..... 40,000
110,000 crowns.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 8th April, 1704. S.N.

My Lord,

I am to thank your Lordship for the honour of your letter, of the 7th March, and for the commissions which I received with it: of which I shall make the best use I can. I hope our port of Villa-Franca will be kept open for the Lyme and the Mary; for we are now almost persuaded that Mons. de la Feuilliade will not attack us there. I was so far in this opinion, that I did desire, and did prevail with, his Royal Highness not to send his letters, and my letters, to Sir G. Rooke until our danger was more certain; because I was afraid that the Queen's fleet might be under some orders, and upon some service which it would not be fit to interrupt, without an immediate necessity. Your Lordship knows more, and, therefore, you will please to give such orders to Sir G. Rooke as are fit. I can only say, that the sooner he can come into these seas, the better will it be for us in many respects. I shall prepare the best pilot I can for Capt. Dolman, though I hope he may likewise furnish himself in some measure, if he can meet any French tartanes in his way. I can say little to purpose to "our great design on Toulon, till those coasts are

"clearer." We have letters from Madrid, of the 12th March, which say, that several persons of the greatest distinction were retired from Court, such as Medina, Celi, Leganes, Duc d'Arcos, &c.: that orders were come from Paris to clap them all up in prison, but that King Philip had not executed those orders. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, the 11th April, 1704.

My Lord,

"As the season advances, I cannot but press his Royal "Highness to prepare for the execution of those good de- "signs, which I have mentioned to your Lordship in my let- "ters of the 19th, 29th Feb., and March the 4th. His Royal "Highness says, he is in the same mind he was; but the more "I press to come to a disposition of the troops and officers, "who are to be employed on that service, that the troops "which are now at Nice may not be drawn thence, though "the enemies should not besiege that place, and that the "1000 horse may be sent now towards Nice, whilst the alarms "do continue upon that coast and furnish us with so good a "pretence, and that this is the only time for the making "some small provision for the subsistence of those horse in "such places as is necessary; the more I press, I say, the "more uncertainty I find. I am told the States do not seem "to approve of these designs; that they have no mind to "have their ships employed on this service; that they will "have no soldiers aboard their ships; that the 2000 aboard "the Queen's ships are but a few; that the States seem more "fond of the design, which I mentioned to your Lordship, "the 4th of March, which is to send Belcastel hither, to raise "3000 men at the charge of the Queen and the States, to "which his Royal Highness is to add as many, for an expe- "dition into Dauphiné; that it will not be possible to execute "both these projects this summer; that, at present, the ene- "mies have such a force in Provence, as will make the execu- "tion of either of those designs very difficult; that the "superiority of Mons. de Vendôme's army will necessitate his "Royal Highness to employ all the regular troops he has, upon "the Po; that there is no appearance of recruits for the Im-

"perial armies in Italy; that the fleet may be so employed "upon the coasts of Spain and Portugal as to make its coming "into these seas uncertain or unseasonable. I fired, at last, "my chase-guns, and have assured his Royal Highness, that "the Queen would acknowledge and reward the success of "his Royal Highness's undertaking upon Toulon with 200,000 "crowns; that I had power to give a bill of exchange for "that sum to his Royal Highness's treasurer, so soon as Tou- "lon was in flames."

"I desire your Lordship would now please to give some "new assurances to Count Maffei that the fleet will come, and "come early into these seas, and that the Admiral will have "orders to pursue his Royal Highness's project on the coasts "of Provence without any regard to what may be done at "any other time upon the frontiers of Dauphiné." I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, April the $\frac{4}{15}$th, 1704.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 10th March. I need not trouble your Lordship for Flotard's letter, since I have got a copy of it from himself. All I can learn by it is, that an army of twelve thousand refugees set down in Dauphiné would do great service. I am well convinced of that, and I wish they were there. He says ten thousand, or eight thousand, men may serve to begin the work, and that the Prince of Hesse would command them; whose father, and father in law, may, perhaps, add some of their troops for the sake of their son. It is very well. I shall obey your Lordship, and furnish this projector with the value of £100 sterling, besides the £100, which your Lordship has already given him, and the £100, which the States gave him; and I will help him to deserve it, if I can. In the mean time I go on with what your Lordship and my Lord Nottingham have approved. I must needs send your Lordship another project which Flotard has given me, by which, he says, it is very easy to send money into the Cevennes, though I believe Mr. Lowndes will not entirely acquiese in it. My Lord, I am morally certain that the oppressions in France are very great; and the misery and necessities of the people there are equal

to them; that the complaints and lamentations both of Protestants and Papists are proportioned to the pressures which they feel. I am assured of this by men of all ranks, who came lately from thence. But all the great men, and above 200,000 fighting fools are still loyal. I can say nothing of Guienne in particular, which is a great way from hence: but I will send one purposely that way. I will write to Mr. Lowndes to night, concerning the remittances to Savoy, and tell him all I know. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, April $\frac{4}{15}$th, 1704.

My Lord,

"I told your Lordship in my last, of the 11th instant, "the difficulties which I met with as I came to press for the "necessary preparations and dispositions for the execution of "our good designs upon Toulon. I have now received the "honour of your Lordship's letter, of 14th March, and have "assured his Royal Highness, that Sir G. Rooke will have "5000 soldiers aboard his fleet, which, together with the pre-"sent garrison at Nice, and a detachment from hence of 2000 "foot and 1000 horse, would enable us to tempt our fortune "in the most glorious manner imaginable. I am answered, "that the enemies have 10,000 in Provence, as if they had "foreseen our designs; that the Duke of Vendôme has al-"ready received 10,000 recruits, by which he is so much su-"perior to us on the Po; that it is not safe to weaken our "army that way. However, I am to have a conference on "this subject with Comte Guido this evening, if he is in a con-"dition to be disturbed for an hour. The thing in this world "which I desire with the greatest passion is the burning of "Toulon; and I will labour [at] it hard." But by what I see, and by what I have already told your Lordship, "I cannot but "wish that Sir G. Rooke may execute his orders on the coasts "of Catalonia." I have a letter from Genoa, which says, that they have advice from Alicant that Sir G. Rooke was passed the Straits' mouth, the first instant. If it is so, I shall hear of him quickly at Villa-Franca, or Genoa, "and I "hope you will excuse me if I go to him, to give him the

"best account I can, how matters stand here. I have not re-
"ceived the plan of Toulon which your Lordship did promise
"me." I have received her Majesty's orders concerning her subjects who are in the enemies' camps, and will make the best use I can of them. His Royal Highness is really vexed at the idle reports which come from France, which are only grounded upon his easy reduction of Savoy, upon the inaction of the enemies against Nice, and the not signing any treaty with the allies. But I must do so much justice to his Royal Highness as to say, that he is very hearty and vigorous, and he will not willingly lose my Lord Treasurer's good opinion. I am preparing to meet my little Admiral Dolman, and long to hear of him. We are told, that the French are disarming some of their galleys at Marseilles, but that they continue with diligence to arm 24 ships at Toulon, for which they yet want many seamen. Mons. Arnaud is got, at last, on this side of the mountains; but his army consists of 30 Vaudois and 2 refugees.

I am really in pain for Comte Guido, because, I think, he is in danger. He is in labour of a piece of a Turkish arrow, which has been in his shoulder these 18 years, and is now breaking out.

We have intercepted a French letter to day, which says, the enemies have driven the Germans from Rivere. I hope better things. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Lowndes.

Turin, the $\frac{4}{15}$th April, 1704.

Sir,

I have received the honour of your letters, of the 14th and 17th March, with Count Maffei's letter to my Lord Treasurer, of the $\frac{12}{23}$rd March. His Lordship has effectually answered the Count's letter by the bills of exchange which I have received from Mr. Pauncefort, drawn by Sir H. Furnese, for 110,000 crowns, and by farther *remises* which Sir H. Furnese is to make, as you tell me. I am afraid that his Royal Highness's treasurers here will not be so well answered by receiving only 80 sous per crown, as well for what is already paid, as for what is to come. They do insist upon having 82 sous per crown, and are contented to allow 3 sous per crown, which was farther paid in the 200,000 crowns

remitted to me, in diminution of the 36,666⅔ crowns, which were due the 2nd April. I will not decide the controversy between his Royal Highness and you, whether he shall have 80 sous, or 82 sous per crown; but I must tell you, what I had the honour to write to my Lord Treasurer some time since, that the treaty says a crown in banque, which is a crown in specie, and such a crown here (either French or Dutch) is really worth 86 sous. I made the 1st payment at 82 sous per crown, because a crown from Holland remitted hither would really yield so much clear, and the minister from the States did pay 50,000 crowns at 82s per crown, and 17,000 more at 83½ per crown, and what the exchange from Holland will yield for a crown the States will pay. I did propose here to make the best bargain I could for the Queen, that my Lord Treasurer would pay in London the full value intrinsic of a Dutch crown-piece, which is about 55d English, and that his Lordship would pay so much honestly every month in London to his Royal Highness's minister. I was beaten from it by the express terms of the treaty, (which is indeed of his Royal Highness's own making) which says, *a crown in banque to be paid in Turin*. I leave you to explain that article, for it is not for me to interpret it yet to the disadvantage of so good an ally as his Royal Highness is at present. I must observe to you, that the proposal of Sir H. Furnese, which you sent to me, says he would remit £50,000 to Turin at the rate of 81⅔s Piedmont money for the 55½ English; but the bills, which Mr. Pauncefort has sent me, are for 110,000 crowns at 80s only per crown. I shall pay these bills as they are, and when my Lord Treasurer has positively determined, whether he will pay 80s or 82s per crown, I will settle the account. I am, &c.

To Mr. Lowndes. HILL.

N. B. Mr. Hill wrote to Mr. Stepney the 4/15th, in answer to his letter of the 26th.

From Mr. Hill to the Duke of Marlborough.

Turin, the 7/18th April, 1704.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Grace, the 11th March, and I yet see no reason to contradict what I then wrote. We are preparing to make a defensive campaign, and

shall make it well enough I hope; because the country is well enough contrived for it towards Italy, and I see no appearance of the enemies coming on the back of us from Dauphiné, or Savoy. Whilst the French were preparing lately to besiege Nice, and had drawn their forces from Savoy for that purpose, his Royal Highness has recovered that Province with as much rapidity, as he lost it; but he cannot spare troops enough to guard it. He has been treating with the Swiss these five months, in hopes to obtain a neutrality for that country by their intercession: and I fear his Royal Highness has no other way but that, to keep the French from taking possession of it again, so soon as the campaign is opened. The Duke of Vendôme has received about 9000 recruits, and expects some more every day. The Imperialists receive neither recruits nor subsistence. The Duke of Vendôme pretends to bring against us this way 56 battalions, and 77 squadrons, to which we can oppose 16 German, and 16 Piedmontese, battalions, with 35 German, and 25 Piedmontese, squadrons. I have no longer any hopes of procuring any assistance here for Sir G. Rooke, towards the execution of a design which your Grace knows, and upon which my Lord Treasurer and my Lord Nottingham seemed to have set their hearts. The Grand Prior bears hard upon the Prince Charles de Vaudemont at Revere, and Ostiglia. The poor Prince wants every thing for his defence but 10,000 good men, who are starving for the Emperor, and had as good be knocked on the head for him.

Our treaty is not yet adjusted at Vienna. I know not if it is for that, or any other reason; but the States are not yet by a tenth-part so good allies to his Royal Highness, as my Lord Treasurer is. Our General Staremberg was in some danger the last week, by the effects of an old wound; but it is now opened, and in a very good condition, and he will be able to get a horse-back in two or three days. We have some advices from France, which would give us some apprehensions of his Royal Highness's sincerity; but we have no reason to believe any thing which comes from thence. One Flotard is come hither, a troublesome volunteer of the Camisards, or of the Marquis de Miremont; but I cannot see what good he can do here. He knows no more what is doing in the Cevennes than the post-man does; and the poor people there are not to be assisted by projects. I pray hard, and I hope well,

that your Grace will make a good campaign, which will ease them, and every body else. I am, &c.

To the Duke of Marlborough. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, the $\frac{7}{18}$th April, 1704.

My Lord,

We are now perfectly persuaded, that the enemies will give us no more disturbance at Nice for this time. And we are told, that some of the troops which were about Antibes are marching up to Dauphiné; some of them to be embarked for Italy; the rest to be employed against the Camisards, and to guard the coasts of Languedoc and Provence. I did think it was time to press "his Royal Highness to come to "a positive declaration, whether he could, or could not, fur- "nish the 5 or 6000 men, which he had promised, to act in "conjunction with the Queen's fleet and forces on the coasts "of Provence. After a long consultation with his Royal "Highness, and the Maréchal de Staremberg, they came to "resolve, that they could not spare 6000, nor 5000, nor 4000 "men; that they hoped they might spare 5 battalions which "are now at Nice, which would make 3000 men; but that "they could not positively engage to appropriate these 5 "battalions to that service; because it was yet uncertain at "what time the fleet would come, and because that they did "believe, that these 3000 men, added to the Queen's 5000, "would scarcely be sufficient to execute her Majesty's designs "against Toulon, considering what forces the enemies could "bring together here, upon the first alarm, and, lastly, be- "cause they cannot bring into the field above 27 battalions, "excluding these five, to face the Duke de Vendôme, who "is coming with 56. Count Maffei will soften all this per- "haps, so as to leave your Lordship some room to hope some- "thing may still be done. I must say I can hope no longer. "And I am now contriving how to send notice to Sir G. "Rooke, that he may neglect no other service upon this ac- "count."

I have seen some private advices from France, which say, that the Marquis de St. Thomas had some correspondence with the Duke de Vendôme, who had sent his letters to Ver-

sailles, and was ordered to do so always. I am sure we ought never to believe any such charitable advices which come from France. I know the Marquis de St. Thomas did write to Vendôme. I saw his letters, about the exchange of the Ambassadors, and other prisoners.

The Maréchal de Staremberg is so well since his wound is opened, that he will be able to go abroad in two or three days. I fear we cannot keep possession of Savoy, because his Royal Highness will want the forces which he has there to strengthen his army on the Po. His Royal Highness has endeavoured to put that Province under the protection of the Cantons. The Swiss will not take that charge upon themselves; but they will labour hard to obtain a neutrality for Savoy, if the Queen and the States will enter as guarantees into the treaty. I have ventured to say, that her Majesty will make no difficulty of entering into the treaty, which his Royal Highness shall make for that purpose with the Cantons; but that we would come into nothing where the French King was. I have therefore desired, that the Cantons would make one treaty with France for the neutrality of Savoy, and another with his Royal Highness to the same purpose, which last her Majesty would please to ratify. "I shall have an "excuse in writing from his Royal Highness by which he de- "clares the impossibility of furnishing 5 or 6000 men, which "he did promise." I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, the $\frac{11}{22}$nd April, 1704.

My Lord,

The last, which I had the honour to write to your Lordship, was of the $\frac{7}{18}$th inst.; in which I told your Lordship, that I did quite despair of getting any thing to be done, at present, "upon the coasts of Provence." I told your Lordship the reasons of my despair, and I have those reasons in writing, signed by the Marquis de St. Thomas. His Royal Highness has now ordered four or five battalions, which were lately sent to reinforce the garrison at Nice, upon the last alarm there, to march back from thence to Coni, in order to have them at hand to come to join our army towards the Po, so soon as it

is formed. The troops, which were lately sent into Savoy, are ordered to march back again into Piedmont for the same purpose. What I did intimate to your Lordship the $\frac{4}{15}$th proved too true. The young Prince of Vaudemont could not secure his bridge over the Po between Revere and Ostiglia; and when the communication between those two places was cut off, it would have been impossible almost to secure both those posts, or, perhaps, either of them. It was, therefore, resolved, at a council of war, to abandon Revere, and to defend Ostiglia, in order to preserve a communication with the Tyrol and Germany. The Prince did, therefore, take his bridge in pieces, and transported his cannon, with what ammunition and provision was left, from Revere to Ostiglia, and, lastly, carried all his troops over with that order and secrecy, that the Grand Prior was amazed to find nothing at Revere but an abandoned village. The Prince had put as many men and as much provision as he could into Mirandola, which is the only place the Germans have now on this side of the Po. The Prince had sent the Marquis d'Avia, at the same time, with a detachment from Ostiglia, to surprise the fort Fuentes at the head of the Lac de Como; where he had so good success, that he made himself immediately master of two small *redoubtes*, and hoped to get possession of the rest very speedily. I reckon the Prince would follow that way with about 10,000 men, which he has left at Ostiglia, where they are of little use now, if he had either horses or oxen, to carry off his artillery and ammunition: he wants none to carry his provisions.

"I hear nothing yet of Capt. Dolman. I must now tell your "Lordship, that my *Général de débarquement* is a brother to "the Comte de Guiscard, Lieut.-General in France, who was "Governor of Namur in the late war, and to one Mons. de la "Burlie, a very good, disgusted officer; from whom we expect-"ed much. I kept my Général here as close, and as quiet, as it "is possible to keep a Frenchman: but his brother de la Bourlie "is seized in France upon suspicion. We are not yet discou-"raged, and resolve to push our point, as far as it will go."

Your Lordship will know from the Hague, that the States-General had ordered the Council of State to pay 100,000 crowns to the minister of his Royal Highness, but that the Council of State have refused to make out the necessary orders for that payment, upon pretence that they cannot charge the Provinces till they are obliged by some treaty. This is

to leave the Duke's troops, as well as the Imperialists which are here, to expect great part of their subsistence from the Queen's generosity alone. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Sir G. Rooke.

Turin, $\frac{12}{23}$rd April, 1704.

Sir,

I did lately do myself the honour to write to you, and called out for your help at Nice and Villa-Franca, as I was directed by my Lord Nottingham. I took good care not to let my letter be sent to you till we were well assured that there was danger; and before those assurances did come, I was persuaded that there was no need to send to you. I send this letter now to wait your coming as high as Genoa, to give you the earliest notice that I can, that you must not expect any assistance of men or troops from hence, for the execution of a design which I suppose may have been communicated to to you by the Earl of Nottingham. I hope you are strong enough to do as much mischief as you have a mind to do; and I hope you have a mind to do as much as you can possibly. About this time twelve-month it was believed in Italy, that our fleet could come over the Alps, and the Appenines; but the fleet proved so harmless and so innocent, that it is now believed it can hurt nobody. I hope you will disabuse them all. The French take every thing they meet, Genoese, Florentines, and Venetians, and they fright the world into their interests. They do pretend to arm 24 great ships at Toulon; but the last letters from thence say, that they wanted a great many seamen. I hope you will let none of those go home this summer, which do fall in your way. If you are so kind as to let me hear of you at Genoa, or at Villa-Franca, I will make all the haste I can to get aboard you. I can get from hence to Villa-Franca with less hazard than I can get to Genoa. But I will certainly make to the place which you will mark to me, in hopes to find a little frigate to carry me to you, wherever you are. I have long wished to hear of you in these seas; for the French have carried about 10,000 men, with powder, ball, ammunition, provisions, &c. from Marseil-

les and Toulon to Genoa, under the convoy of one or two frigates with great security. I am, &c.

To Sir G. Rooke, at Genoa. HILL.

N.B. Mr. Hill sent a duplicate of this letter to the Consul at Villa-Franca, the 26th April.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, $\frac{18}{29}$th April, 1704.

My Lord,

I am to thank your Lordship for the honour of your letter of the 24th March. The best answer I can make to it is, that the Emperor's affairs in Hungary seem to us here just now to have quite another face than what they had then; and the Maréchal de Tallard seems to find more difficulties in sending succours to the Elector of Bavaria than he did apprehend. If we have good success in those two points, we may hope for good consequences from thence.

As to the Republic, I must think that what I had the honour to write the 7th of March, does weigh with them, and with others. I am preparing still for Capt. Dolman. Sir Geo. Rooke cannot come time enough to hinder the French recruits and provisions from coming to Italy; they are come. He can do us no good with regard to the Imperial recruits, which Count Guido hoped to receive by sea, since we have lost Revere; for though they should now get to Ostiglia they cannot get over the Po. His Royal Highness is gone to Trin to observe the Duke of Vendôme as near as he can, and to form his camp so soon as it is necessary, where it will be most necessay with regard to the enemies' designs, who are so much superior to us as to determine our motions. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

N.B. Mr. Hill wrote to Mr. Stepney the $\frac{18}{29}$th April, 1704, under Mr. Davenant's cover.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 2nd May, 1704. S.N.

My Lord,

"I can say nothing more to your Lordship concerning "the Republic of Venice, or the Elector of Bavaria, than

"what I have said formerly. I must beg leave to say some-
"thing concerning the State of Milan. It is certain, that the
"people of that rich country do perfectly hate the French,
"and abhor their government. But I think it is as certain, that
"they do not love the Germans, and that they will not wil-
"lingly submit themselves to the Emperor. They are used
"to the Spaniards, born and bred under that gentle, or feeble,
"government; under which they have enjoyed great privileges
"about 150 years, and much greater quiet and security than
"that country ever knew under any other system of dominion.
"I am, therefore, perfectly persuaded, that they earnestly de-
"sire to preserve their allegiance to the crown of Spain, and
"would be very glad to pay that allegiance to a Prince of
"the house of Austria." If King Charles should meet with success in his glorious attempts, he would have the hearts and the prayers of all the Milanese: "hands and arms they have "none. But if they are to be turned over to another master, "as they now believe they are, they must be conquered; they "will not work to forge their own chains," and they desire nothing but to have the controversy "decided so soon as may "be." Perhaps all this may be well for the Queen's service, and for her people, that the war may last "here, as it wears "off in other places, where you are more concerned."

I have found one man now on this side the Alps who will "be contented to have the Milanese in the hands of the Em-
"peror. It is his Royal Highness, who hopes the Germans
"will have a greater strength in that country than the Span-
"iards used to have, and who, having an easy communication
"with Germany, may be always at hand to support him on
"that side, as the French may do upon occasions on the
"other side." He has also his particular reasons, which are, that he supposes the "Emperor will make good the treaty "which is now making, which the Spaniards would not be so "willing to observe. His Royal Highness is also upon such "a foot with the Republics of Venice, Gennes, the Court of "Rome, and Florence, &c.," that he has maxims very different from theirs. I have desired the Imperial minister here to in-form himself exactly "from their Ambassador at Rome, or "otherwise, how far the Queen's fleet may be useful at Na-
"ples, or Sicily, in case Sir G. Rooke should have orders to
"go thither. He has assured me, but only in general terms,
"that those people are ready to declare in favour of King

"Charles upon the sight of the fleet. I hope Sir G. Rooke "has his orders;" but if your Lordship sends me any farther orders for him, I will carry them to him, "and serve aboard "him all the summer, if you think I can be of any use." I owe such a campaign at least to the Prince, my master. I can leave Mr. Chetwynd here to receive your Lordship's commands, which he will execute as well as I can, "and when Sir "G. Rooke has done with me, he will drop me at Genoa, or "Villa-Franca. I shall go to this last place as soon as I hear "that Dolman is there." I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

N.B. Mr. Hill wrote to Mr. Stepney the 6th May, 1704, in answer to his letter of the 16th April, and sent it under cover to Mr. Davenant.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, 9th May, 1704. S.N

My Lord,

I did not acknowledge the receipt of the letter with which your Lordship was pleased to honour me, the 4th of April, though I received it before the departure of our last post because I have said enough, I think, upon that subject in my letter of April the $\frac{7}{18}$th. It was not without great reluctancy that I gave over my solicitations upon that subject; but I found it was time to give them over. I saw very plainly that "the Duke of Vendôme would be too strong for us upon the "Po, and I could not in conscience press his Royal Highness "too much to weaken his army. I must have pressed less "than I did, if I had been certain that Sir G. Rooke would "have had only 2000 redcoats aboard him." We have begun our campaign here ever since the 5th; but the enemies are so superior to us, that they put us out of our play, and only give us leave to act defensively in order to prevent their designs. His Royal Highness has given a notable instance of his mettle; but he went so near to Casal, in hopes to hinder the Duke of Vendôme from passing the Po, that he was forced to retire to Crescentin, which could not be done without exposing his rear-guard; which being put into some disorder, his Royal Highness exposed his own person a great deal more than was necessary. We are now encamped at Crescentin,

where we shall fortify our camp as well as we can, since the Duke of Vendôme seems to have a mind to attack us; and we must look out sharp for the security of Verceil, Verrue, and Ivrea. We are not without some alarms for Nice and Villa-Franca still; and nothing but the hopes of Sir G. Rooke's arrival in these seas does quiet us there.

We are pretty well assured that the Duke of Modena has followed the example of the Duke of Mirandola, and submitted to the conditions which the French were pleased to prescribe to him. We are told, but with much less certainty, that the Grand Duke of Florence has made a will, by which he gives his people, and estates, like a chattel, to the Duke of Berry, if his brother, the Cardinal de Medicis, as well as his two sons, leave no issue. I am busy still every day, in expectation of "meeting Capt. Dolman at Villa-Franca about "the end of this month." I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, $\frac{2nd}{13th}$ May, 1704.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 11th April. I submit to your Lordship's reasons, which protect the port of Genoa; and I am sorry the same reasons did not reach to Leghorn, which is a port of much more use and convenience to her Majesty's subjects in all respects. I do not doubt but that the Queen and her council have found it necessary to do what they have done at Florence. I only beg leave to be sorry for it; not because all the world here does take the Grand Duke's part against Mr. Plowman; nor because the trade of England, and the Queen's subjects, are like to be the greatest sufferers; but because I do not see how the Queen can sufficiently shew her resentments.

The alarms are now over which the Duke of Vendôme gave us the last week. After he had looked upon us in our camp at Crescentin two or three days, he thought fit to retire to Trin, and to leave us at ease. I hope I shall obtain some favour for the Vaudois; but it will not be much. The Marquis de Prié has been so well received at Vienna, that we hope the Emperor will consent to send back the treaty in the terms which his Royal Highness does desire. I am just going

to the camp to wait upon his Royal Highness. I only stay to assure your Lordship, that I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, the 16th May, 1704. N.S.

My Lord,

I am just now come from the camp at Crescentin, where I left his Royal Highness and his little army encamped in great security. Mons. de Vendôme was retired to Trin, where he has actually encamped 42 battalions which he reckons, at 400 each, 16,800; sixty-five squadrons, at 120 each, 7800. We have about half this number at Crescentin; but they are very safe. I saw our army under their arms, and what there is of them is very good. I must confess I could not see these venerable relicks of the Emperor's army without great concern. They have done and suffered so much for their master's service, that they deserve to be better fed and clothed than they are.

I send your Lordship here a copy of an answer which the Republic lately gave to a minister of his Royal Highness. It is impossible to say less in so many fine words. I sent a man lately to Toulon, and he is just come back with the enclosed account, which I have put into English. We do not yet hear that Sir G. Rooke is on our coasts; nor do I hear any thing of Capt. Dolman. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

"Sur la lettre de S.A.R. vûe par le Sénat avec mon écrit y joint, le College m'a fait faire hier réponse par un Secrétaire, que la Sérénissime République avoit reçeu avec beaucoup d' estime la confiance que S.A. luy avoit fait, et qu'elle luy témoigneroit dans toutes les occasions la corréspondence qu' elle a pour sa bonté, et le cas qu'elle fait de sa très estimée personne, et de sa Sérénissime maison. Qui est ce qu'ils auroient pu dire sur mon premier écrit."

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, $\frac{9}{20}$th May, 1704.

My Lord,

In my last I sent your Lordship an account, which I

received from a person, whom I sent to Toulon, and Marseilles, of what he saw there. I send your Lordship here an extract of the same account.

The Lyme and Mary-Galley are safely arrived, the $\frac{6}{17}$th inst., at Villa-Franca, and I shall make all the despatch I can possibly to send them to sea again &c. They met in the bay of Cadiz, or thereabout, 12 French men-of-war at anchor. They met 6 more off of Toulon, who cruized there; and 10 galleys off of Antibes, who gave them chase; and heard of 5 French frigates off of Nice, the day before they arrived. I wish Sir G. Rooke had come to meet all these. We wish for him in these seas, and have done so, these three months, more than we pray for fair weather in harvest.

The Elector of Bavaria, and the Maréchal de Marcin are come with 24,000 men to meet the succours which the Maréchal de Tallard is to send them. The fate of this campaign, and, perhaps, of the whole war, depends upon the event of this affair. The rebels in Hungary will or will not submit; the Emperor's armies in Italy will or will not be recruited, according as the Elector of Bavaria is or is not supported by this reinforcement which is sent to him, with money, with ammunition, &c. At present the communication between this place and Holland is so interrupted by the enemies, that the couriers cannot pass; and it will be some time, I believe, before I shall receive any commands from your Lordship. His Royal Highness is still encamped at Crescentin, and the Duke of Vendôme at Trin. We are well entrenched, and, since the Duke of Vendôme saw that it was not advisable to attack us in our posts, we are told, that he is entrenching likewise, which we suppose he does in order to be at liberty to leave a little body of troops at Trin, and to pass the Po with the rest of his army, and to bring the war into the plains of Piedmont. We are so much more sensible of this, because we are now threatened that all those troops, which were lately in Provence, and are come into Dauphiné, are to come upon our backs by Suze. We shall fence and parry as well as we can. We are told that young Prince Vaudemont is dead at Ostiglia, and I am afraid it is true. The Emperor loses one of his best officers, at a time when he could least spare him: the world loses a Prince of great virtue and bravery: my loss is the greatest, I lose a friend. "I have sent a man to the "Cevennes to see in what condition they are there. I expect

"him back again every day, if he is not hanged." I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, the $\frac{12}{23}$rd May, 1704.

My Lord,

I continue to write very regularly to your Lordship, as in duty bound; though the Elector of Bavaria and the Maréchal de Tallard have interrupted, for the present, between us and all our allies, all manner of correspondence. We expect with great solicitude the success of that affair, on which, for aught I know, the fate of the Empire may depend. We are immediately concerned here in that matter; because, if the Elector receives men, and money, and ammunition, and every thing which he wants, from France, the Maréchal de Staremberg will receive from Germany nothing of what he wants. I told your Lordship, long since, that the Imperialists would be left to be subsisted out of the Queen's subsidies. I think I told you true. The Duke of Savoy has given them bread and forage ever since the 13th of January. If the Court of Vienna will give us neither money nor recruits for their troops, they ought, at least, to give us a treaty a little in our own way, especially since they can give us nothing but parchment for what we ask. We are now persuaded, that the Duke of Vendôme has received his orders from Versailles, and that he will attack us at Verrue. We should be less disquieted at these designs, if the Duc de la Feuilliade were not to come on our backs with a little body of troops, just strong enough, as he thinks, to insult us at Suze. His Royal Highness has courage, resolution, and fermeté[1] equal to every thing. I sent your Lordship notice, in my last, that "Capt. Dolman" was come. I should certainly have been this day at "Villa-"Franca," where all my tools are, if the two last posts had not assured us, that the "Camisards have laid down their arms." We do not want zeal or mettle; but I am not willing to play off "the Queen's ships, and 500 good Protestants," if the game is already lost. I expect letters every post from one, whom I "sent to Montpellier" a month since; and from another, whom "I sent to the Cevennes" about three weeks since. I shall

[1] Firmness.

determine, upon their advice, and the sense of his Royal Highness. I am, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

N. B. Mr. Hill wrote to Mr. Stepney, the 23rd May, 1704, under cover to Mr. Fisher, &c.

From Mr. Hill to Captain Dolman.

Turin, $\frac{13}{24}$th May, 1704.

Sir,

I did write to you, the $\frac{9}{20}$th inst., by the Duke's courier, in answer to your letter, of the $\frac{6}{17}$th. I did think I should be going towards you by this time, with the Queen's orders; but I must desire you to have a little patience, for I cannot be despatched here these 3 days yet. In the mean time I hope you will get the two frigates cleaned; but if they cannot be cleaned in a few days, I fear we shall be at a loss. I must, therefore, beg of you to get them cleaned with as much diligence as is possible. I did write to the Consul, Mons. Bouer, desiring him to provide some wine to make beverage for your ships' crews, against the time your beer is finished. I must desire you will observe in that matter the rules and methods of the navy. I hope you have put the French prisoners into some of the Duke's prisons; as his Royal Highness has given orders to receive them. I desired the Consul to write to Toulon in order to exchange them against so many of the Queen's subjects. If there should be ever a French pilot amongst your prisoners, who is acquainted with these coasts, I think you would do well to keep him, and to engage him to your service, if you can, by good usage and promises. If the Consul, Mons. Bouer is not come to Nice, or expected there in a very short time, I mean in two or three days, I pray desire one Mr. John Oliver, who is, I suppose, an English merchant, to provide you some wine for beverage. I will be responsible for his payment. I am not without some disquiet, lest the Queen's ships should not lie safe in the port of Villa-Franca, as well with regard to the winds, as to the insults of the enemies. I did desire his Royal Highness, and he has given his orders to the Governor of Nice, to take the best care he can for your defence; but you must keep good watch yourselves. I am, &c.

To Capt. Dolman, &c., at Villa-Franca. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the $\frac{16}{27}$th May, 1704.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship, the $\frac{4}{15}$th April. I sent word then to Mr. Lowndes, as I had done to Mr. Fox, that I had received Sir Henry Furnese's bills for 110,000 crowns, which I paid so soon as I could possibly. There wants now, according to my account, a sum of 33,333$\frac{1}{3}$ crowns to clear the Queen's debt to his Royal Highness to the 2nd June, S. N.; and at the 3rd of June her Majesty will owe, for two months more, 106,666$\frac{2}{3}$ crowns. I do not importune your Lordship for these payments: I leave that to others. But I must say, that his Royal Highness does want, as well as deserve, all you can do for him. The States pay slowly. The Emperor does not so much as find bread for his own troops. They are left to the care of his Royal Highness, and the Parish. We have yet no treaty from Vienna. I did, perhaps, once believe that his Royal Highness might have done well to be contented with the conditions to which the Emperor did consent: but since he did require a little more, in consideration of his sufferings, by the disarming of his troops, and the invasion of Savoy; since his Royal Highness is forced to do more than he was obliged to, because the Emperor can neither recruit nor subsist his own troops; since the Emperor is obliged to the declaration of his Royal Highness, that he has one German left in Italy; and, lastly, since the Emperor can give nothing to his Royal Highness but wax and parchment, and that the execution of the Emperor's promises is very remote and uncertain, whilst his Royal Highness's engagements are very serious and very heavy; upon these and some other such considerations, I cannot but think, at present, that the Imperial ministers ought to gratify his Royal Highness in the fashion of a treaty wherein his Royal Highness ventures so much; where the Queen and States pay a good deal; where the Emperor does so little; and where his Royal Highness can expect no advantage, unless the Emperor recovers a great deal, for all which he must be obliged to his allies. The posture we are in here, and the prospect we have of the Emperor's affairs, would make a man, so plain and so natural as I am, say a great deal more, if I were not persuaded that your Lordship sees more at a distance than I can see, though I am nearer.

What does affect and mortify me most sensibly is, the loss of our allies in the Cevennes, who have submitted to the Tyrant, and have laid down their arms, if the accounts which we have from France, by the three last posts, are true. This happens just at a time, when I had got every thing ready to send them some men, some arms, and some money. I keep every thing yet by me, in hopes something or other may yet come across the Maréchal de Villar's good fortune; and in hopes I may every day hear from two men, whom I have sent about a month since into Languedoc, one of which did promise me to go into Guienne. The Duke of Vendôme bears close upon us at Crescentin, and Verrue, but has not yet attempted any thing of moment there. Mons. de la Feuilliade is upon our backs at Suze, with about 8 or 10,000 men, which may be enforced[1] with some more troops from Languedoc, if Cavallier and Roland have made a separate peace. We shall then want the rare valour and resolution of his Royal Highness to keep up our spirits. I should not have troubled your Lordship so much to day, if I had known whom I could write to, though I am glad of any occasion to assure your Lordship, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Stepney.

Turin, the 27th May, 1704.

Sir,

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, of the 30th April, and 3rd May, &c. I am very sorry that you have not ended matters some way or other with your Camisards in Hungary, before the Maréchal de Villars made an end in Languedoc. I wish at least you would follow so good an example, and make such an end with Ragotski, Berzeni, &c., as the King has made with Cavallier, Roland, &c. We are the more desirous, that you and Mons. Bruyninx may have such success, because we want the care and attention of your Court this way. I can say no more than the Marquis de Prié and Count Tarin will tell you in relation to the treaty, which we have so long expected. I will not say his Royal Highness has been always in the right in asking what he does ask; but I must say, your ministers have no reason to refuse him any thing now, since you neither send men, nor money, nor any thing else to carry on your own war in Italy. You leave

[1] Strengthened.

us here in an ill condition at present. Poor Prince Charles de Vaudemont died in despair at Ostiglia, where the Grand Prior was too hard for him. The Duke of Vendôme is superior to us upon the Po, by Trin and Crescentin; and whilst he bears hard upon us there, three other little armies pretend to come and forage in Piedmont. One is of the Spaniards which is, at present, encamped on the Sesia; another is in the Astesan commanded by Albergotti; the third is coming on our backs at Suze from Dauphiné, and is commanded by La Feuilliade at present. We shall have difficulty enough to fence against all these whilst they are separated; and if they come to join, they will not be less troublesome. The Queen is very generous, and just, and pays her taxes very honestly; but if his Royal Highness must put his own troops, and the Imperial troops, and the French besides, to quarter this winter in Piedmont, he is like to pay dear enough for the reversions, and expectances, which you are so loath to promise. However, this is not the language which I talk here. I was ordered to solicit his Royal Highness to be contented with what Count d'Altheim did bring: and so I did, so long as it was to purpose. I have nothing now to do, but to fear that the French will beat us out of Italy, whilst the Emperor sends us no succours; or that they will offer such conditions to his Royal Highness as he may be at liberty to accept; since he is under no obligations with any of the allies. I see no hopes we have, but in the spirit and valour of his Royal Highness, which are admirable; and in the virtue, and courage, and fidelity of Count Guido which are very great. I am, &c.

To Mr. Stepney. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Consul, at Nice.

A Turin, ce 30 Mai, 1704.

Monsieur,

Comme j'ay appris qu'il y a des matelots Anglois, et des Maîtres de Navires marchandes dans les prisons à Thoulon, et qu'ils y pérrissent aux dépens de S.M.T.C. je vous prie de faire entendre à Messrs les Officiers de sa dite M. à ce port, qu'en cas qu'ils veulent bien les envoyer à Nice, je m'engage en honneur et en conscience de faire sortir des prisons de la Reine autant de François de la même qualité et du même rang que seront ceux qui viendront à Nice. Messrs les François n'ont

qu'a les renvoyer, en faisant deux listes de leur noms, dont ils envoyeront l'une à Brest, ou à Dunkerque, et l'autre à vous, lequel j'envoyeray à Londres, ou les officiers de la Reine, s'en chargeront eu compte. C'est un œuvre de charité que nous allons faire, si Messrs les François y veuilent consentir. Je suis, &c.

'A Mons. le Consul, à Nice. HILL.

The following is from a rough draft of a letter commenced by Mr. Hill's Secretary, but with corrections and additions in the hand-writing of Mr. Hill himself. It does not appear to whom it was addressed.

May 30th, 1704.

All our advices from France continue to affirm, that Cavallier had accepted the amnesty offered by the Maréchal de Villars, and made his peace with the French King; but the conditions cannot be known till the return of the courier, whom the Mareschal sent to Versailles, the 13th, to receive the King's orders, and who was to return in 12 days. Letters from Nîmes, of the 17th inst., say, that day M. Cavallier came thither to meet the Maréchal de Villars, with whom he had a long conference: he had left his troop at Lusary, about a league from Nîmes, and was conducted into the town by M. de Lande, Lieut-General, who was sent out to meet him with a small guard. In the evening he returned to his troop very well satisfied with his reception, and the civilities he received from the Mareschal. People of all sorts crowded to see Cavallier, and were so well satisfied with his person, and his modest behaviour, that some of the most considerable of Nîmes accompanied him to his troop. It is impossible to express the joy that country has on this account, in hopes that now they may stir out without being in danger of being murdered. The same letters give an account that Messrs. Roland and Castanet, two Captains of the Cevennes, had, the very same day on which Cavallier offered to submit, defeated the battalion of Tiurnon, killed about 200 soldiers, 8 or 10 officers, and the Lieut-Colonel. This action makes us believe and hope that Roland may still hold out, and not come into the resolutions which Cavallier seems to have taken, and we are still willing to hope that something may break off the negotiation with Cavallier himself.

The six men-of-war, which sailed from the bay of Toulon,

the 10th inst., were returned the 20th, and a great many ship-carpenters were arrived at Toulon from Marseilles, to work upon the ships which are fitting out there; but they can find but few seamen.

Some advices from France say, that the Maréchal de Tessé is to come and command the troops before Suze: others say, the Maréchal de Villars is to come and command them: neither of them is yet come. We are assured there are yet no more than 8 battalions, and one regiment of dragoons before that place. The two armies on the Po, continue still in their former camps, at Crescentin and Trin. M. Castelinont, Lieut.-General in the Duke of Savoy's service, and one of those officers, whom the French arrested in Italy, is exchanged: he arrived here from France this week, and is gone to the camp.

The Bavarians are still in the way of our couriers between Holland and this place, so as we receive no letters from England.

From Mr. Hill to Capt. Dolman.

Turin, the $\frac{19}{30}$th May, 1704.

Sir,

I have received the favour of your letter, of the 13th, O. S. I am sorry you will be so long a careening the 2 frigates, and I beg of you to make all the haste you can possibly. The Queen's service does require you should be gone to sea, so soon as is possible. I have desired the consul to pay for the wine you buy, and I desire him to be assisting to you in every thing. I must own I am afraid for you in that port. The enemies can come from Toulon in 48 hours, in 6 from Antibes, or Monaco, and burn you in the harbour, if you do not look out sharp. I hope you take the best care you can: the Governor will make a battery for your security; and I hope you may plant your own guns also to defend your ships, whilst they are cleaning. I doubt not but you keep good guard, and good orders, for your own honour, and the honour of your country. I go this morning to the camp, and will be with you next week, God willing, in hopes to find you ready to sail. I fear, sometimes, the enemy's ships may come with English or Dutch colours up to your very sides; but I know you are not less concerned than I am. I sent all your letters carefully for London; but they run so much danger on the way, that you would do well to send duplicates of what is material. I have sent you, at several times, nine lusty En-

glish soldiers who deserted from the French. You may enter them, I hope, according to their qualities as part of your complement, or bear them as supernumeraries. I wish I could send you more of them. I am, &c.

To Capt. Dolman, &c., at Villa-Franca. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the 3rd June, S. N., 1704.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship the last week. We have no letters from London since then, nor can we guess what is doing there. Since the 21st April I did put your Lordship in mind, that the Queen's share of subsidies to the Duke of Savoy, from the 3rd October past to the 2nd August now coming, amounts to the sum of 600,000 crowns,
Of which I have paid for your Lordship... 460,000:
Rests to clear the Queen's debt..... 140,000 crowns:

The States-General do owe to his Royal Highness by the same way of accounting } 300,000 crowns:
Of which they have only paid..... 78,000:
So that to morrow his Royal Highness will have a just demand upon them for } 220,000 crowns:

This is, indeed, a great arrear for ten months; and the more considerable, because his Royal Highness does really want these funds. I know not how far those necessities will justify the methods which the Savoy ministers took the 19th past, at the Hague, to demand the payment of these arrears; but sure I am such methods would almost fright a body. The Dutch minister here, a plain and impolite man, tells the Duke, that it is his own fault, because his masters are under no obligations of payment till the treaty is signed. All this lies heavy upon the Queen, and upon the Duke. Her Majesty pays fairly, and his Royal Highness ventures bravely his person, his estates, and his crown; but they both want the just assistance of their allies. How far those wants may justify at last the infidelity of a mistress, I cannot tell. We do enjoy his Royal Highness: we have his person and his affections; but there is no tie, no contract, no Sacrament. I think I ought to tell your Lordship, that the Commandeur d'Operti, who was lately Ambassador from his Royal Highness at Madrid, is

now come home. He has, I find, told his master, that he found little disposition in Spain towards any revolution. He is an ill prophet, and, I hope, a false one. I resolve not to believe one word of all he says. I wish I could hinder other folks from being more credulous. Our last letters from France confirm the former accounts of Cavallier's submission, and that the King of France had ratified what the Maréchal de Villars had promised. These letters do not speak so positively of Roland and Castinet, &c. I am very unwilling to give over my good endeavours for their assistance. I have sent them word, that they may expect succours of men, of money, and of arms immediately, if they will keep themselves in a posture to receive them. And I will not disband my troops till I hear once more from Languedoc. We fear Prince Lewis will let the Elector of Bavaria, and the Maréchal de Marcin get safe home. All the hope we have is, that Sir G. Rooke will land the Prince of Hesse, and his 3000 Portuguese, in Catalonia, and that the Duke of Marlborough will march not to the Moselle, but to the Danube. The Duke of Vendôme has made two or three motions, as if he would besiege Verceil. We wish he would. Mons. de la Feuilliade has been insulting us this week at Suze, but has yet done us no harm. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Nice, the 9th June, 1704, N. S.

My Lord,

I came to this place yesterday-morning upon the business which your Lordship knows. I met here a packet from Sir G. Rooke, dated the 25th May, S. V., off of Toulon. I find he had received advice from the Queen's ambassador, at Lisbon, and by other ways, that the Comte de Thoulouse was got to the Straits with about 36 great ships from West France; that he was to be joined there with 6 other ships which were gone from Toulon, sometime since, for that purpose; that a council-of-war of English and Dutch officers had resolved not to come on this side Toulon not to suffer some more ships, which are said to lie ready in Toulon, to get out, and join the Comte de Thoulouse. The Queen's fleets were therefore to sail back from Toulon, to look for the enemies towards the Straits, and, missing them, would go towards Lisbon, to

meet the men-of-war, and some victuallers which were to come from England. I find the fleet had been some days upon the coasts of Catalonia; that the Prince of Hesse had landed with 1500 soldiers, but that he had met neither friends nor enemies; that the fleet had thrown some bombs into Barcelona, before they went to Toulon. I make all the haste I can to give your Lordship this short account of these matters, supposing that Sir G. Rooke would not willingly trust a larger relation to the posts. We shall be consterned[1] here, and at Turin, so soon as it is known, that the fleet is gone back from these seas. I shall never persuade them, that it is to come back again this summer. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

Mem. This was sent from Turin the 13th June, 1704, S. N.

From Mr. Hill to Sir C. Hedges.

Nice, the $\frac{5}{16}$th June, 1704.

Sir,

I have received here all together the letters with which you did honour me, the 2nd and 12th May, with a duplicate of one, of the 25th April, which was lost at sea. I must first inform you that we have news here that Sir G. Rooke had been at Barcelona and Toulon, the 4th of this instant, S. N., from whence I had "letters from him, by which I did understand, "that he was going back towards the Straits to look for the "Comte de Thoulouse." We are now told here "that the "said Comte de Thoulouse is come into the road of Toulon." The Garland frigate, with a fire-ship, are come into Villa-Franca to day. "They came from Lisbon to look after Sir "G. Rooke, but neither heard of him, or of the Comte de "Thoulouse." What we do believe here this day, by laying all reports together, is, "that Sir G. Rooke and the French "admiral did miss one the other; that the first is gone to the "Straits, or, perhaps, to Lisbon to meet Sir Cloudesley, and "that the latter is got to Toulon, where he will find about "10 ships ready to join him. What we hope is, that Sir G. "Rooke will be superior, when he has met Sir Cloudesley, "and that he will come again into these seas immediately, for "without him," we shall think ourselves lost here. I have said so much "already to persuade the Queen and her min-"isters, that we must not think of doing any thing at Toulon

[1] Be in a consternation.

"this year, that I dare say no more. But I beg of you, for "God's sake, not to lose time, or to give any more orders "about that matter, neither now, nor the end of this summer. "Sir G. Rooke has not the red-coats aboard which are neces- "sary, and his Royal Highness cannot spare any men for "that service. Comte Maffei does well, to say every thing "which may induce her Majesty to send her fleet into these "seas; but it is my duty to tell you things as they are." I believe this place is in some danger of being besieged before winter, if the sight of the Queen's fleet does not hinder it. The enemies are besieging Piedmont, and will endeavour to cut off all our communication by sea. It would be a long and tedious work to tell you all the steps which have been taken in order to obtain a neutrality for Savoy. His Royal Highness did desire it for the security of his dominions that way, and engaged the Swiss to ask it for their own convenience. They did so, but could obtain nothing to purpose, and I think that matter is now at an end. I came hither 10 days since, i. e., so soon as I heard Sir G. Rooke was got into these seas. "I found the two frigates here which I had de- "sired; I had 400 men and 50 officers, some arms, and some "ammunition, and some money ready, which I hoped to land "in Languedoc. The news of Cavallier's separate peace "broke all our measures. The news of Roland and Rave- "nel's resolutions to hold out gave me new life, and I pressed "our friends to embark. I did not find them so forward as "I expected, though I assured them that the Queen's fleet "was come to support them. Cavalliers defection served for "an excuse to their unwillingness, and the news of the Comte "de Thoulouse's being in their way, instead of Sir G. Rooke, "confounds us quite. However, I do not yet give it over. I "hope some good still from Roland, Ravenel, and others, "and that we may hear of Sir G. Rooke's return. I would "not willingly have that fire extinguished in Languedoc, "which has done us more good than we were aware of, till "we were frighted with the apprehension of its being quite "out. I stay here till a man returns from Languedoc, if he can "return; and then I make an end of my exploit one way or "other. I shall write to Sir G. Rooke from hence by the "Charles-Galley and the Garland, and tell him all I know, "which may be for the Queen's service. I know not if I am "rightly informed of M. G. Belcastel's errand, and instruc-

"tions;" but be they as they will, I shall now answer for two-"thirds of the expence, and will contribute two-thirds also "of my own pains and labour." I will write to my Lord Raby concerning the exile-protestants; but if the money sent him is only for the protestants lately sent from Orange, I can ask him, I think, for nothing. If that charity is more diffusive, I would beg some of it for our poor Vaudois, for their ministers, or some French refugees who are now under arms in the valleys. I send you here a French letter, as I receive it, r om Lyons; because I fear the account from Barcelona may have some truth in it. I am, &c.

To Sir C. Hedges. HILL.

Mem. This was sent from Turin, the 20th June, 1704, S.N.

From Mr. Hill to Sir C. Hedges.

Nice, $\frac{11}{22}$nd June, 1704.

Sir,

I have received here the honour of your letters, of the 16th and 19th May. I have sent notice to Sir G. Rooke, as you direct me, by the Garland, who came to look for [her] Admiral as high as this place; but neither met him, nor the Comte de Thoulouse. The Garland has three or four packets aboard, which were given to [her] by my Lord Ambassador Methuen, and I have been very sorry that she has been detained here, by calms and other accidents, these two or three days. I hope she will get out to night. One of my men, whom I sent to Toulon, is come to me to day. He says, he saw the Comte de Thoulouse come into that road the $\frac{1st}{12th}$ inst., with 50 sail of all sorts. Twenty-nine of those fifty were great ships of the line-of-battle; of which twenty-three came from West France; the other six went out of Toulon, and met the Comte de Thoulouse about the Straits. The other twenty-one sail were frigates, fire-ships, and tenders, or merchantmen. He adds, that they are working night and day, at Toulon, upon eight ships more of 3 decks, and two ships of 60 guns each, which are all they can be able to man there. He adds, they have eight galleys armed at Toulon, which were designed for the siege of Nice, and which are still designed for the same service. Indeed the French seem resolved to besiege Piedmont. If they should be so fortunate as to take Verceil, they have not far to Ivrea, and then we have no communication

with Switzerland or Germany. They will then only want Nice, to cut off all communication from us by sea. I stay here to see the Queen's frigates safe out of this port, and then I go back to my post, at Turin. I am, &c.

To Sir C. Hedges. HILL.

Mem. This was sent from Turin, the $\frac{13}{24}$th June, 1704.

From Mr. Hill to the Duke of Marlborough.

Turin, $\frac{19}{30}$th June, 1704.

My Lord,

It is with infinite pleasure and satisfaction, that I have followed your Grace upon the maps over the Meuse, the Moselle, the Rhine, the Maine, and the Neckar, to the banks of the Danube, where the English colours were never yet seen before. I hope so generous and so glorious an undertaking will be crowned with success, and that your Grace will have the honour to secure the Emperor upon his tottering throne, without which it is not possible to do any thing in Spain for his son. I am just come from Nice, where I went in hopes to meet Sir G. Rooke. He came, indeed, with 40 ships from Lisbon, and came up the Mediterranean with the Prince of Hesse on board, who made every body believe he should do great things if the fleet appeared on the coasts of Catalonia. It did appear before Barcelona, where they sent all the compliments and invitations they could imagine to the magistrates and people, to which they received no answer. The next day they began to threaten. They landed 1200[1] men, who took post, and staid ashore twice 24 hours: nobody came to them. They threw some bombs into the town which caused no disorder or insurrection, as the Prince of Hesse expected. After this Sir G. Rooke re-embarked his 1200[1] men, and stood away for Toulon, where he hoped to hear of us, but heard nothing. While he lay there, he received very pressing letters from Lisbon where every body was frighted out of their wits at the sight of the Comte de Thoulouse's fleet, which passed by there, and stood along the coasts of Portugal towards the Straits. These letters represented that fleet to be stronger than it was; which made Sir G. Rooke resolve, at a council-of-war, to go meet the Comte de Thoulouse before he should be joined by the Toulon squa-

[1] *Query*, 1500? See pages 105, and 371.

dron. As the Queen's fleet stood towards the Straits, and the French made for Toulon, the two fleets saw each other at about three leagues' distance, but had that respect for each other, that they never came much nearer. Each kept its course. The Comte de Thoulouse came to Toulon, and Sir G. Rooke is gone for Lisbon, to meet his victuallers, and some more ships which Sir Cloudesley has carried thither. The French are entirely masters now of the Mediterranean; but the Queen is absolute mistress of the Ocean. We are under a great deal of pressure here in the meantime. The Duke of Vendôme is much superior to his Royal Highness on the Po. He has besieged Verceil in due form, and I fear he will be lodged to morrow upon the counterscarp. Mons. de la Feuilliade came on our backs, and has taken Suze, from whence he has marched towards Pignerol, and gives us great disquiet, lest he should pass the Po near its source with about 8000 men, that he has with him, and join M. Albergotti who is in the Astesan with about 6000 more. Indeed all Piedmont is in a manner besieged at present, and his Royal Highness has need of all his courage and resolution in the condition he is now. The Emperor's troops have neither recruits, nor subsistence, nor bread, but what his Royal Highness does furnish. "I embarked last week, at Nice, about 450 men, officers and soldiers, with money, with arms, and "ammunition, for the relief of the Camisards. How they will get ashore, and join "their brethren, I cannot tell. We are in so ill a condition "here that I dare not look forward to the end of the campaign. "If we can receive no succours, and neither recruits nor subsistence for the Imperialists which are left in Italy, the "Duke of Savoy will lose his countries, or we shall lose the "Duke of Savoy before Christmas. We do expect salvation "from no side but from your grace," and from thence we do expect it. I am, &c.

To the Duke of Marlborough. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Sir C. Hedges.

Turin, the 1st July, 1704, S. N.

Sir,

I came last night from Nice, "from whence I embarked "411 soldiers, and about 36 officers, with arms, ammunition, "and money, for the assistance of our allies in Languedoc.

"I saw them set sail the $\frac{13}{24}$th. They were out of sight the "$\frac{14}{25}$th, and I came away the $\frac{15}{26}$th. They are gone upon a des- "perate errand, and I am in pain for them; especially since "the Queen's fleet is gone from the coasts of France, and the "French fleet is come to Toulon; but it was not reasonable "to expect the Cevennois should hold out any longer, if no- "body would endeavour, at least, to come to their relief. "The defection of Cavallier, and the negotiations of the rest "with the Maréchal de Villars, and the appearances of the "entire submission of the whole party, made it impossible for "me to embark *mes enfans perdus* till I had assurances to "shew them, from a man whom I sent on purpose to Langue- "doc, that Ravenel and a great party held out still." I have done my best, and I must leave the rest to Providence. "I "have letters from Mons. Belcastel, by which he desires my "advice to meet him in Switzerland. I desire him to come "on, because I do not know the Queen's intentions, nor what "his business is. If he is to raise 3000 men for the assist- "ance of the Cevennois, at the expence of the Queen and the "States, the Swiss will not suffer such levies to be made a- "mongst them. If he is to raise 3000 men for the service of "his Royal Highness, in the name of the Queen and the "States, we shall only hinder the levies which" his Royal Highness is making there, and shall pay very dear for very ill men. But I shall say more of this in a more proper time.

I must own the receipt of your letter, of the 23rd May. Comte Maffei told the Queen what he ought to tell her Majesty in his private audience. His excuses, and his reasons for "his master's not concurring in the grand design, were true," and so I said, long since, to my Lord Nottingham. The hopes "he would give of any other opportunity to re-assume that "design this summer are quite vain and groundless, and are "only to encourage her Majesty to send her fleets again this "summer into the Mediterranean;" though, perhaps, it may be as well to leave them to domineer upon the "coasts of Spain, "Portugal, and France, from Cadiz to Dunkirk," and then the enemies may chance to repent of their having carried all their ships into the Mediterranean, where they can make little use of them. We are in pain for Verceil, where I fear the enemies will be lodged to morrow upon the counterscarp. The place is attacked, and is defended, in due form. The garrison is entrenching behind the breach, and we think they

will do their duty to the last. His Royal Highness would gladly endeavour, and attempt, something for the relief of the place; but he wants force. The Duke de la Feuilliade, with his army of about ten thousand men, disquiets us as much now towards Pignerol, and amongst the Vaudois, as Albergotti does in the country of Ast, and that side of Piedmont, with his body of 5 or 6000 men. The French King seems to hearken to his resentments against his Royal Highness, who has need of all his courage, and resolution, to support himself with such unequal forces. I did myself the honour to write to you, the 16th and 22nd June, from Nice. I need trouble you no more now, but to assure you, that I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the 1st July, 1704. S.N.

My Lord,

I shipped off my "little army," at last, by God's grace, upon two of the "Queen's frigates," and three "tartanes" which I fitted up at "Villa-Franca." I gave to my "Général "de débarquement" 16,000 crowns with him in ready money. The "Duke of Savoy" will pay 4000, the States 4000, and I must come to your Lordship for the other 8000; besides two-thirds of the expenses for the victualling of this little "fleet," &c. I will make up the accounts so soon as I can possibly, and send them to your Lordship, desiring you will please to let me be reimbursed this money, which I took up here, pursuant to your Lordship's, and my Lord Nottingham's orders. The defection of "Cavallier," and the return of the "Queen's fleet towards Lisbon," the coming of Comte de Thoulouse to Toulon, &c., have made my enterprise "more "desperate." But I hope all these accidents will not be imputed to me. The "Duke of Savoy" pressed me to *risquer le paquet*. I do not trouble your Lordship with the particulars of my negotiations and intrigues. This is the first plot I ever was in, and I shall never desire to come into any other. So soon as I came back to this town, I found every body here thought "our affairs in a desperate condition." I went immediately to the camp, where I found "his Royal Highness" in greater "tranquillity" than I did expect. He has not "sufficient forces" to endeavour the "relief of Verceil," or to

help "himself" on any side. The Germans here have "no "hopes of subsistence," but from his "Royal Highness," and he has told them positively, that he cannot "help them." Though he assured me yesterday, that he would not let them "per- "ish." Now I must tell your Lordship, that I am not without great "diffidence and disquiet," though his Royal Highness did make to me yesterday "all the protestations" imaginable of "his steadiness and resolution to stand and fall with "his allies. But "if things go on in the train they are now, to "the end of the campaign, the Duke" will lose "his country," or we shall lose the "Duke." The "Pope has said, that he "knew for certain that his Royal Highness was actually "treating with France. Our Général de Finances has been "missing sometime. Here it was said he was gone to the "camp; at the camp it was said, that he was gone to Ivrea, "and I have sent to see if he was there: because this is the "man who did negotiate with Mons. Catinat in 1696. The "people here, and nobility, do detest and abhor this war, and "the engagements of his Royal Highness. The Duke him- "self does despair of any good success in Spain." He sees no hopes any where, but from the success of my Lord Marlborough's expedition. I do not trouble your Lordship with more particulars; but, indeed, the "indolence and tranquillity, "in which I found his Royal Highness yesterday, did not seem natural to me, in the situation of his affairs. Mr. Warre will make this letter more intelligible to your Lordship. I must pray you to believe, that I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Captain Dolman.

Nice, June the $\frac{4}{15}$th, 1704.

Sir,

Whereas you are come to Villa-Franca with the Queen's ships, the Lyme and Mary-Galley, to follow her Majesty's orders, which should be communicated to you by me: This is, therefore, to desire and require you to receive aboard the Lyme and Mary-Galley, such officers and soldiers as I shall send to you, and to transport and land them on the coasts of Languedoc, in the Gulf of Lyons, wherever you can most conveniently and safely, according to the advice of the officers which shall be sent on board you, and of the patrons of the tartanes which shall sail with you from Villa-Franca.

You will also give convoy to the said three tartanes, which are loaden with soldiers for the same service, and who are to land at the same time and place. You will also assist their landing with all the boats which the Lyme and Mary-Galley can man out. You will also deliver to the Marquis de Guiscard, commander in chief of this débarquement, the leather portmantle in which are 3000 louis d'or of the Queen's money, taking his receipt. If you find it not practicable to land your troops, either from the opposition of the enemies, or other accidents, you will endeavour to bring them all back again to Villa-Franca, in which case you will deliver the said 3000 louis d'or to the Queen's consul. If you should chance to find her Majesty's fleet off the Isles of Hieres, you will suffer the three tartanes, if they return empty from the coasts of Languedoc, to load as much salt as they can, and you will see them safe into the port of Villa-Franca, where there is great want of salt. If you meet the Queen's fleet going into the Gulf, you will require aid, and assistance, and direction from the Admiral: if you meet the said fleet in your return from the Gulf, you will receive such orders from the Admiral as he will please to give you. When this service is over, and that you have seen the three tartanes safe into Villa-Franca, you will make the best of your way to join any part of the Queen's fleet, which you shall hear to be in the Mediterranean; and if you hear of no part of it in the Mediterranean, you will make the best of your way to look for it, on the coasts of Spain, or Portugal, and follow the orders of the first flag you meet. I am, &c.

To Capt. Dolman, Commanding the Lyme, &c., at Villa-Franca.

RICH. HILL.

Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the 4th July, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you the 1st inst., at large. I have since received the honour of your letters, of the 20th May, and 2nd June, S. V. It is no hard task which you are pleased to command me, to encourage his Royal Highness, &c. He has more courage and resolution than half mankind. We are in better humour to day, than we were when I had the honour to write last to you. The news

we have of Heister's last success in Hungary, of the arrival of some German recruits in the Ferrarese, with a promise of more, the resistance which the poor Vaudois make in their mountains, now they are recovered from their first fears, but more than all things, the hopes we have that the Duke of Marlborough will, one way or other, reduce the Elector of Bavaria, do give us new life and spirit. I will go to the camp to morrow, to let his Royal Highness know the care which the Queen is pleased to take of him, and, at my return, I will let you know what may be farther done for the support and interest of his Royal Highness, as you do command me. I expect little from Belcastel's scheme, for the reasons I have formerly given, and for some others. If the Queen will please to be at any more expense for his Royal Highness, I must think the best way were to buy some good German troops, and to send them into Piedmont for his service. I shall be able to speak more distinctly when I have seen Belcastel, whom I expect here daily. The last letters from France say, that the affairs in the Cevennes were not terminated. It seems as if M. de Villars had orders to end them by negotiations and management, before he comes to fire and sword. The Comte de Thoulouse brought a rich merchant-ship of St. Malo with him from Cadiz. She was bound to Marseilles; but he carried her to Toulon, and took out of her 100,000 crowns for the King's use. That Admiral is joining all the French and Spanish galleys to his fleet, with which it is said he will go back to Cadiz.

The Pope grows troublesome to us here, upon the account of several old disputes and squabbles, and threatens to make use of his great guns against us. He does not fright us; but if the Queen's fleet were to come back into these seas, I would beg leave to fright him. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

N.B. Mr. Hill wrote to Mr Stepney, the 4th July, 1704, S.N., and sent it by Francfort. He wrote also to Lord Raby, and sent it the same way.

From Mr. Hill to the Earl of Nottingham.

Turin, the 4th July, 1704, S. N.

My Lord,

Though I have not the honour of any letter from your

Lordship since the 11th of April, and though I do expect no more from you; and though I ought not, perhaps, to importune your Lordship any more with mine, yet I cannot omit taking leave of your Lordship in decency and good manners. I must beg you to excuse all the trouble I have given you, since I came out of England, and to pardon me if I have neglected any thing which might have been for the Queen's, or your Lordship's, service. I must thank you for the justice, the regularity, and indulgence of your correspondence. I must lament my own misfortune in the interruption of it; and I must be sorry you have abandoned us, for the sake of our dirty, distracted country. I must also be sorry upon my own particular account; because you have sent me a great way upon an errand, and now I know not how to get home. I should be more sorry if that home was good for any thing, and if all the rules, and principles of virtue, of truth, of honesty, and of common sense, were of any use towards the making one's services agreeable, either at home or abroad; but that is a blessing not to be expected in a drunken, gothic, nation, which loves noise and bloody noses. I do, therefore, felicitate your Lordship in the quiet of an honourable retreat; where you pity those who are at sea in foul weather. I would beg of you to honour me with your friendship and good opinion, as the reward of the long journey upon which you sent me, or of that fidelity and attachment with which I shall ever be, &c.

To the Earl of Nottingham. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the 8th July, 1704, S. N.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship, the 1st instant, when I was a little in the spleen. I have since then received the honour of your Lordship's letter, of the 6th of June, and, at the same time, several bills from Mr. Fox for 106,666⅔ crowns, with which I shall clear the Queen's account to his Royal Highness to the 3rd of October. You are an admirable ally, my Lord, and, I believe, we shall do and suffer every thing here, rather than venture the loss of your friendship. I observe well what your Lordship is pleased to say concerning Mons. de Miremont, and his zeal for the

assistance of his brethren in the Cevennes. I could say more, if I had seen Belcastel, whom I expect every day. I know not, I protest, where the Prince will find his 6000 men, or where Belcastel will find his 3000. I am sure they will not find them this way in 3 years. I wish your Lordship would please to determine nothing in that matter, till we have seen Belcastel here, who has been sounding the waters in Switzerland. So soon as I have seen him I will give your Lordship a faithful account of this matter. If the Prince is in haste, my Lord, I wish you might find it reasonable to let him begin to raise a regiment in England, or Ireland, of pure Camisards, each company of 100 men, and the regiment to have 10 companies. If you can make no other use of those men, they will do good in Holland, in Portugal, at sea, or in the West Indies. I observe the orders which your Lordship is pleased to give concerning a detachment to be made by Sir G. Rooke, who will certainly be superior to the Comte de Thoulouse, when he has met Sir Cloudesley. But I doubt whether the Queen's fleet is to come any more into the Mediterranean this summer. I believe the two Kings will desire to keep it on the coasts of Spain and Portugal, where, perhaps, it may be most useful. I see no very eminent service it can do this year in the Mediterranean, unless Thoulouse would come out to be beaten. It would save Nice so long as it could stay on that coast; but it cannot stay there long. The Comte de Thoulouse pretends to have 48 sail of very great ships, and 40 galleys, with which they say they will go to Cadiz. I believe Sir G. Rooke and Callembergh, will not willingly let him get between them and Lisbon. However, if they should come again this summer, contrary to my expectations, I will not only send to them, but endeavour to be aboard them, with your Lordship's letter of credence in my pocket. I have no account of my friends, since they sailed from Nice, which I can depend on. We do expect sudden deliverance by my Lord Marlborough's glorious expedition to the Danube. We hope he will save the lame, the blind, and the paralitic: I mean the Germans. We have faith enough in him to be saved all. What I said to your Lordship, in my letter of the 1st, I said to nobody else, and I wish now I had said a little less. I have found that the man who was missing was certainly at Ivrea all the while. His Royal Highness has been upon the wing these three or four days past, as near to

the Duke of Vendôme's quarters as he can go, to give him all the disquiet he can.

Just as the post is going away, I receive a courier from Nice, who brings me the ill news of the return of the Queen's frigates thither, with my Camisards aboard, having lost the three tartanes at sea. I cannot complain of the Queen's officers; they have certainly done their best. I cannot say so much of the commanders of the tartanes, who were frighted, I believe, at the sight of every sail they met. It is not worth while to trouble your Lordship with a detail of this misfortune. I am going to the camp to consult his Royal Highness, and to see if there is any remedy. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Harley.

Turin, the 11th July, 1704, S.N.

Sir,

I did desire Mr. Warre to make my compliments to you the last week, so soon as I did know that you had taken hold of the helm. I did seriously congratulate the Queen and the Public upon the happy acquisition which they had made; for since England is more engaged than it ever was in the affairs of Europe, it is fit she should employ her best subjects in the direction of those matters.

I should have been afraid, Sir, of troubling you thus much, if I had not received the honour of your letter, of the $\frac{6}{17}$th June, in which are so many expressions of humanity and goodness, as would engage the importunity of an extraprovincial correspondent. The concern which you shew for our friends in the Cevennes, and your approbation of what was doing for their relief, does add to the mortification which I suffer now in the disappointment of my endeavours. Three tartanes, on which I had embarked 280 soldiers, deserted us at sea; and I cannot yet tell what is become of them. The Queen's frigates came back to Villa-Franca, and I shall save the arms, ammunition, and ready money for another occassion. If the tartanes should return, as I hope they will, to Villa-Franca, I shall not be able to do any thing at present, because the Maréchal de Villars has guarded all the coasts of Languedoc with his regular troops and militia, and the Comte de Thoulouse has sent three galleys to port Cette, where there were

two before. I am apt to believe, that I did hinder Roland and Ravenel from following the example of Cavallier; and I must do all I can to keep my word with those honest Gentlemen. I am just come back from the camp at Lucedia, where his Royal Highness is got as near as he can to the enemies' lines; but it is not possible for him to attempt any thing to purpose for the relief of Verceil. Our treaty is at last come back from Vienna to the satisfaction of his Royal Highness.

I do earnestly desire, that you may meet with all the honour, success, and satisfaction imaginable in the execution of your new employment, to which your own merit and capacity, and the vows of those who love the Queen's service best have condemned you. I must also desire you to believe, that no man alive does honour you more perfectly than I do, nor can any man be, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Harley. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the 11th July, S. N. 1704.

Sir,

The last which I had the honour to write to you was of the 4th instant; since when I have not any commands from you. I have been at the camp to consult his Royal Highness upon the return of the Queen's two frigates to Villa-Franca, with two-fifths of my adventurers aboard them. These frigates came back to port, upon the desertion of the three tartanes with the other three-fifths of the army. The tartanes are not yet come in, and we know not yet what is become of them, or why they left the frigates. We believe it was their fear and cowardice which made them desert. It is now resolved to debark the soldiers, and to keep them still at Nice, as if we would still go on with our design. We find, for certain, that we encouraged the Cevennois to hold out, in hopes of succours, and that the Maréchal de Villars is obliged to send so many of his troops to the sea-coasts, that he cannot press the Cevennois with so much vigour as he would, nor spare any of his forces to the Duke de la Feuilliade. I beg leave to keep the two frigates a little longer in these seas, seeing it must be with great hazard to send them just now towards the Straits. We would still go on with our project,

if any thing should happen to make it practicable yet. At least, we would make the world believe we have not given it over. I will venture to send the two frigates to cruise along the coasts of Italy for 20 days, where I hope they may do some good by annoying the enemies, at least by amusing, and alarming them. They do great service to his Royal Highness at Nice, by keeping the galleys of Antibes and Monaco in awe; which otherwise do suffer no boat to go in or out of Villa-Franca. Our treaty is at last arrived from Vienna to the satisfaction of his Royal Highness. I should quickly despatch it here, and send it to you for the ratification of her Majesty, if the minister of Holland had power to sign it with me. I am not willing to be separate from him in any thing; and if he cannot have power to sign it, I shall propose to send it to the Hague, and to London, to be ratified, which is most essential. We can sign it when it comes back. His Royal Highness has lent some of the money, which my Lord Treasurer paid him last, to Comte Guido, for the subsistence of his troops. I say nothing to day to you of Verceil; I fear I shall say too much of it next week. La Feuilliade continues very quiet in his camp at Pignerol. I fear he expects the success of the Duke of Vendôme at Verceil, and keeps himself in a posture to act by concert with him afterwards. We are fortifying Ivrea with all possible diligence and application. I send you here a list of the ships which the Comte de Thoulouse pretends to arm at Toulon, and to join to the 29 he brought thither. He did propose to go to sea the beginning of this month. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{4}{15}$th July, 1704.

Sir,

The last letter which I had the honour to write to you was of the 11th. Since then one of my tartanes is come into Villa-Franca, but of 78 men, which were put aboard her, she has only brought back 13. The rest mutinied at sea, and forced their officers to set them ashore on the coasts of Catalonia, near to Roses, where they said they would go. I have yet no account of the other two tartanes. This I must ob-

serve to you, that there is great difference between the zeal of a Camisard in the coffee-houses of London, and on the frontiers of Languedoc. Mons. Belcastel is not yet come hither. I fear his zeal is cooled also, as he came through Switzerland. So soon as he appeared there, the Council of Bern made a very severe edict against any body who should presume to enrol a man in their dominions without their leave; and that we may not ask leave to raise men for Belcastel's purpose, the Swiss have declared to the French ambassador, that they will not suffer their subjects to go into France to assist the Camisards, which they suppose would be contrary to their treaties of alliance with France. They have gone farther; for upon the noise of Belcastel's project, they have sent to exact an obligation from his Royal Highness, that he shall not employ any of the Swiss which are, or which shall be, in his service for the assistance of the Camisards. At the same time these filthy long beards do not hinder the French King from employing his Swiss for the destruction of the Cevennois. However, some cunning men are come hither to tell me, that, if the Queen and the States are desirous to raise 3000 men for the service of his Royal Highness, things may be so contrived, as that the Swiss will take our money. I have only answered, that I can say nothing till Belcastel comes; that I do believe the Queen will do every thing for the support of his Royal Highness; but that I do believe Belcastel's journey did regard the assistance of the Cevennois; and that if her Majesty did design to give any troops to his Royal Highnesss she would rather send some old troops, than be at great expense to raise men in Switzerland, which would be good for nothing these two years, but to hinder the levies and recruits which his Royal Highness is making there. I desire you will please to let me know the Queen's pleasure upon this subject, if you would have me say any more in it.

What the Duke of Marlborough did, the 2nd inst., upon the Danube, gives us wonderful relief and comfort, like a strong cordial which gets in a moment to the extremities of the body. If his Grace pushes his fortune, as we hope he will, he will save us all. Verceil holds out still, and his Royal Highness walks about as near as he can to it, very desirous, if it were possible, to relieve it. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{6}{17}$th July, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you the last post. Since then I have a melancholy account, from Nice, of the other two tartanes which were missing. They were met by two French galleys near to Oneglia. One of them was taken, and carried into Monaco; the other ran ashore, and saved herself at Oneglia. We sent immediately to Monaco to reclaim the officers and soldiers as prisoners at war, because the Captain of the tartane had a commission as a Privateer. I know not yet whether we shall recover them; but if there are any of the Queen's subjects amongst the prisoners of war any where, I desire they may answer for them. I have now given you an ugly account of my holy war, which has given me great mortification. I hope the next attempts will be more successful. The last letters we got from Toulon say the Comte de Thoulouse was ready to sail, waiting only for a wind. Some letters say, with fifty, others say, with sixty ships, great and small, and with twenty-five galleys; several of his ships very ill manned. It was not known which way he would go; but it was believed he would go to Cadiz. His Royal Highness has sent to desire I would go to him at his camp, and I am going this night. I shall set all his artillery at work for the news of my Lord Marlborough's victories on the Danube, of which we hope to feel the influences here. The Comte de Prelat governs and commands in Verceil, since Mons. d' Haies is no longer in a condition to serve; and the besieged do make so brave a resistance, that it is a pity they cannot be relieved. I shall have the honour to write to you more at large at my return from the camp. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}^{\text{nd}}$ July, 1704.

Sir,

I returned this day from the camp near to Verceil, where the Envoy from the States and myself had been to receive his Royal Highness's pleasure, of which I must now give you some account.

I find his Royal Highness is as impatient and as eager now,

to make a treaty with the Queen and the States, since his treaty at Vienna is perfected, and since my Lord Marlborough is got into Bavaria, as he was slow and unwilling before. But his Royal Highness does lay aside the project which I had prepared in January last, according to my instructions, and that which the minister of the States had prepared, according to his, which does entirely agree with mine. His Royal Highness did offer us a project of a treaty of his own fashion, which, indeed, we do not like. However, I did offer to sign it with some alterations and amendments on condition that the Envoy of Holland would sign with me. He positively refused, as not having power to engage his masters in the guarantee of those cessions, which the Emperor makes to his Royal Highness, until they have seen the treaty in the very terms it was concluded. I do think I am under orders and directions not to make that objection: but I am so unwilling to leave my Dutch friend in any thing, that I desired his Royal Highness would send the treaty, which he would have us sign, to London, and to the Hague, with powers and instructions to his own ministers to finish it there. His Royal Highness did not like this expedient, pressing me to sign it, and that he would send it to the Hague, and powers to his minister there to treat with the States. I was then forced to say, that I would do all I could to please his Royal Highness in his own way; that though I did not like the turn and manner of this treaty, and several expressions in it, yet I would submit as far as I could. However, there are some things to which I dare not consent without the Queen's orders, viz.; the Emperor's treaty does promise, that the Queen and States will pay 80,000 crowns per month during the war, to which I am ordered to consent, and so is the Envoy of Holland. This treaty would now engage the Queen and the States to the payment of those 80,000 per month during the war, and two months after the peace is signed. I dare not submit to this, without her Majesty's orders, which I pray you to signify to me. There is another article which gives me more pain, and that is what does regard the Vaudois. These poor people have their Books of Martyrs, which were full before the time of the Reformation; and, since that time, almost every reign in Savoy is marked with their persecutions. About16 years since, they were almost exterminated, and were only established by a secret article in the treaty of alli-

ance, which was made in 1690,[1] between our late King, the States, and his Royal Highness. That treaty ended in 1696; and though his Royal Highness has still continued to protect them, and to suffer them to enjoy the liberty of their religion, they have no security of that liberty, but the good-will of their Sovereign. My instructions in this matter are very plain; and when I did about six months since solicit his Royal Highness in favour of these people, he was pleased to promise me, that he would give us a secret article in our treaty, by which he would engage himself not to revoke the edict[2] by which they were established, pursuant to the treaty of 1690. Now it is so contrived, that the article which concerns the Vaudois signifies less than nothing. I have great complaisance for his Royal Highness; but in this point I cannot have enough. I must stick to my first instructions, unless you do intimate to me her Majesty's pleasure to comply with his Royal Highness in this matter. I must own that I am now less desirous to make any treaty at all with his Royal Highness than I was for six months past; since his Royal Highness is now engaged in good form to the Emperor. The Queen does pay her subsidies generously; his Royal Highness does act bravely. All farther negotiation here is to be entirely to the advantage of his Royal Highness, and a weight to the crown of England.

I desire you would please to let me receive her Majesty's commands with regard to the 160,000 crowns, which his Royal Highness demands after the peace is made, and to the liberty of conscience for the Vaudois, which I do demand, so soon as I may expect them.

The garrison of Verceil has beat the *chamade* at last, 36 days after the trenches were opened. The defence of this place has been very good, considering there were but three old battalions in the town. All the rest were peasants the 3rd of October last. This disaster does not hinder his Royal Highness from ordering *Te Deum* to be sung here to day for the success of the Queen's arms on the Danube under the conduct of my Lord Marlborough. It is indeed from thence we must expect our deliverance. If the Imperialists are not set at liberty to send some troops through Tyrol into Lombardy very quickly, we must expect the Grand Prior will come to

[1] See this treaty, and secret article, in appendix E of this volume.
[2] See this edict in appendix F of this volume.

join his brother with his body of troops; and La Feuilliade will not lie idle. M. Belcastel[1] is now come hither, and I shall go with him to morrow to the camp, to wait on his Royal Highness. He has communicated to me his orders and instructions,[2] and I will serve him as heartily as if I did believe he could hope to succeed in his good designs; though I think it is impossible, for the reasons which I gave you in my letter, which I had the honour to write to you the $\frac{4}{15}$th inst. I believe it may be possible to recruit and complete the Swiss levies, which have been making these 8 months past for his Royal Highness at the Queen's expense. At my return from the camp I will give you a farther account of his Royal Highness's opinion, if I can, in this matter. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

[1] See page 127. [2] Major-General Belcastel's orders and instructions, referred to by Mr. Hill, were as follows:

Sécret

Extrait du régistre des résolutions des Hauts et Puissans Seigneurs, Les Etats-Généraux des Provinces Unies des Pays-bas.

Du Mardi, 29 Avril, 1704.

Ouï le rapport des Seigneurs de Essen et autres députés de L.H.P. pour les affaires Etrangèrs ayant été en conférence avec le Seigneur Duc de Marlborough, ambassadeur extraordinaire de S.M. la Reine de la Grande Bretagne sur le secours qu'on pourrait donner à ceux de Cevennes et tout ce qu'en leur faveur on pourrait faire, dans laquelle conférence le dit Seigneur Duc de Marlborough a déclaré que sa dite Majesté étoit affectionnée de concourir pour les deux tiers dans tout ce qu'on pourra faire en faveur de ceux de Cevennes sur quoi ayant été déliberé, Il a été trouvé bon et entendu que le Major Général Belcastel sera ordonné comme Il lui est ordonné par ces présentes pour se transporter (le plûtôt le meilleur) en Suisse et en Piémont et y étant arrivé d'examiner avec les ministres de sa Majesté et de L.H.P. tout ce qu'en faveur de ceux de Cevennes pourra être fait, et particulièrement si en Suisse au ailleurs aux environs on pourroit faire la levée de 3000 hommes pour le compte et au service de l'Angleterre et de l'Etat pour par iceux aider à ceux de Cevennes, et cela étant possible et faisable, et au cas cela même étant ainsi trouvé d'avancer les affaires aussi loin qu'elles pourront être faites d'en donner incessamment avis à L.H.P. pour ensuite et suivant l'exigeance des cas lui étre envoyé des ordres plus particuliers. Que de ceci il en sera donné connoissance au Seigneur Vander Meer extraordinaire envoyé de L.H.P. à la cour du Seigneur Duc de Savoye et à icelui écrit que le dit Général-Major étant arrivé, il parlera avec lui et ceux deux examineront conjointement avec le Seigneur Hill, Envoyé Extraordinaire de sa M.B. et aussi concerteront avec le Seigneur Duc de Savoye ou avec ses ministres, sur et en quelle manière on pourra faire la levée des susdits 3000 hommes

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{14}{25}$th July, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you the 8th, 11th, $\frac{4}{15}$th, $\frac{6}{17}$th, $\frac{11\text{th.}}{22\text{nd.}}$ I believe some of these letters will have fallen into the hands of the Maréchal de Tallard's parties. If not, I have good luck. We have lost Verceil, as I intimated in my last: that is not all. I think we have lost the garrison, which consisted in 13 battalions, and 5 squadrons. The town and its territory, a great artillery of more than 70 pieces of cannon, with great quantities of provisions, of ammunition, &c., were a great loss for a Duke of Savoy; but we are more immediately affected with the loss of our troops, which were to help us to defend the rest of our country. The Duke de Vendôme was to have no great honour by the conquest of Verceil. His merit is to be enhanced by his severity to the garrison, beyond the common rules and practice of war. We are told that some of our officers were desirous to die upon the breach, rather than to submit to such hard conditions; but they were not all of the same mind. I am but just returned from the camp, and shall scarce have time to write so distinctly to you as I would. I must say, that I left his Royal Highness not insensible of his losses; but his courage, his firmeté, and his resolution are above all things. He pressed me again yesterday to sign his treaty with her Majesty, to which I had no repugnance in the condition we are now here. Every body is dejected; the loss of 300 Gentlemen does affect almost every family in the country one way or other. His Royal Highness says, he does, or suffers, so much for his allies, that he believes the Queen would not refuse to grant

comment et en quelle manière soit pour le plus grand dommage que l' ennemi en pourroit recevoir, les 3000 hommes pourroient agir pour l'exécution de tout ce que conjointement ils auront jugé le plus convenable à faire et que par provision et autant qu'il se pourra ils aideront et établir les ordres nécessaires et ensuite ils donneront du tout incessamment connoissance à L.H.P.

Que de cettes résolutions de L.H.P en sera envoyé un extrait au Seigneur Van Vrybergen Envoyé Extraordinaire de L.H.P. à la Cour de S.M.B. et à icelui on lui écrira tout ce qui pourra être de quelque fruit et qu'il fera des instances à cette fin, pour qu' aux ministres de S.M. en Savoye il soit envoyé de semblables ordres.

Signé

Randuyck, Président.

him the continuation of his subsidies for two months after the war is ended, since it is not possible to knock his troops on the head, or disband them in less than two months. I think as his Royal Highness does, and, therefore, I reintrenched myself behind my Vaudois, whom I resolve not to abandon. I begin to think I shall obtain an article in their favour, if I will consent to the payment of the two months' subsidies which are demanded; but I will hold out, if I can possibly, till I have your answer to the last letter which I had the honour to write to you. Mons. Belcastel was with me at the camp, and his Royal Highness assured him of all the assistance which he can give him in the execution of his designs, but gave him little prospect of any success in them. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Harley.

Turin, the $\frac{14}{25}$th July, 1704.

Sir,

The other side is a copy of a letter, which I did myself the honour to write to you, the 11th, and which is fallen, I believe, into the hands of Mons. Tallard. I should not have troubled you with a duplicate of it now, but to shew you, that I was not wanting in my duty to you then. I must write to Mr. Secretary Hedges to day; but I cannot represent to him the dangers we are in here, or the apprehensions we are under. His Royal Highness has lost Verceil, which was his best place, and lost the garrison too, which made one-third of his army. If you cannot prevail with the Emperor to send some forces into Italy very suddenly, we are in the same condition in which the Elector of Bavaria is; and if the Emperor suffers us to be destroyed here, there is an end of his hopes in Lombardy. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Harley. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Duke of Marlborough.

Turin, $\frac{15}{26}$th July, 1704.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Grace the $\frac{19}{30}$th past, to tell you in what condition we should be here in a little

time. That time is coming fast upon us now. Verceil surrendered the 21st, and the Duke of Vendôme would give no conditions to the garrison, but to be prisoners of war. He said his orders were to treat us so; and if the garrison had beat the *chamade* the 2nd day after the trenches were opened, he would have given them no other conditions. He has his reasons; for though the loss of that place is of great consequence to his Royal Highness, the loss of the garrison, which was of 13 battalions and 4 squadrons, does affect us more immediately. The danger we are in here is great; the consternation is greater. We are at the mercy of a merciless enemy, who is pushed on to make an end of us here, as well by interest and reasons of state, as by his resentments. I did myself the honour to write to your Grace, about 10 days since, and I sent you a letter from his Royal Highness. I did then call out to your Grace for help, as loud as I could. I am now desired to call out louder, because we are in greater distress, and because we can expect no deliverance, but by a good body of troops to be sent away, so soon as is possible, through Tyrol into Lombardy. If you do not put the Emperor into a condition to do so, the war will be ended in Italy this summer; and all the pretensions of the house of Austria to the Duchy of Milan, Kingdom of Naples, &c., will be postponed for a long while. We do not yet know what Mons. de Vendôme will do next: because he may do almost what he pleases. We think he will besiege Ivrea, where the Duke is putting almost all the rest of his foot. If the enemies take that place, we lose all communication with our allies. His Royal Highness still keeps the field, and will do so as long as he can. Comte Guido, with his Germans, which are about 9000 effective, is of great use to us; but they receive no subsistence from Vienna, and his Royal Highness is not able to pay them. Bread and forage he does give them, ever since January. "The French do not use us so well as your Grace "uses the Elector of Bavaria. They offer us no conditions;" if they did, I would not trouble your Grace any more. The Comte de Thoulouse is at sea with a great fleet, and going, I think, to the Straits. I send this letter by an adjutant of P. Lewis, who is returning to his master, to whom he carries an account of the condition we are in here. I am, &c.

To the Duke of Marlborough. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the 1st August, 1704, S. N.

My Lord,

I have been forced to my bed these six days past; but nothing can hinder me from thanking your Lordship for the letter which you were pleased to write to me, the 27th June, and which I received here yesterday. It is certain that the Comte de Thoulouse's fleet was dressed in buckram, as your Lordship says, by those who saw it pass by the coasts of Portugal, and by Capt. Taylour, who told Sir G. Rooke, that he had 36 sail of tall ships. The truth is, there were 23 great ships from West France, 6 more from Toulon which met their Admiral about the Straits; but he had a great equipage of tenders, frigates, fire-ships, and some merchantmen, which were brought *en ligne de compte* by all who saw them, though they would never come *en ligne de bataille.* Thoulouse is now sailed again with a great fleet from Toulon, of which I send a list to Mr. Secretary, as I received it from Toulon. I wish he may come in the way of Sir G. Rooke, and be beaten well by him. It is all we expect from the Queen's fleet this summer. It is not possible, my Lord, to turn one thought towards the execution of the good design which your Lordship has at heart. We are out of pain for Nice, till the end of the summer, and the return of the French ships and galleys to Toulon. We are not out of pain for Piedmont, which is besieged by three armies, one of about 24,000 men, under the Duke of Vendôme, the second is of about 8000, under La Feuilliade, the third is of about 5000, under Albergotti. We are expecting which way these gentlemen will use their forces. "If the "French should offer us any terms at present, I fear we should "accept them." I am sorry my Lord Duke has lost time in hopes of persuading the Elector of Bavaria to change hands. He must be well beaten once more, before he will be converted. I am forced to give out here, that the Duke of Marlborough will come into Italy himself, so soon as the business is ended in Bavaria. Nothing else can raise our spirits here; we have no faith for any other Saint. I am so pressed to sign our treaty by his Royal Highness now, though the minister of Holland has not power to sign, that I can hold out no longer. I shall, I fear, engage your Lordship to the payment of two months' subsidies after the war is ended; but I think I have such reasons for submitting to this, as will excuse me to your

Lordship. I am more cautious of engaging the Queen in a greater expense upon Belcastel's project, from whence I can hope for no good to the poor Camisards, though I am very partial to them. So soon as I can get out of my bed, I will give your Lordship a full account of this matter. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the 1st August, 1704, S. N.

Sir,

I have received the honour of your letters, of the 23rd and the 30th June, together, with a copy of your letter to Sir G. Rooke, of the 30th May. I must make you the best answer to them that I can to day, though I have been confined to my bed these five or six days. I send you here enclosed a list of the French fleet, which I got from Toulon; it is such a list, I think, as the French are willing we should have. I question whether they have so many ships; and I am confident they are not so well manned as to have their complement. However, as they are, they set sail from the Isles of Hieres, some letters say, the 16th, others, the 24th past, and stood Westward to look for Sir G. Rooke, as they give out. I should be content that they might find him, but had rather it were in the Ocean, than in the Mediterranean. The departure of the Count de Thoulouse from these seas, does give us ease and quiet for Nice for some months longer. The proper time for us to be insulted there must be in October, or in February, when the enemies may come from Toulon in twice 24 hours, very secure of not being disturbed by the Queen's fleets, which cannot be in these seas in those seasons. We have no news at all of Sir G. Rooke's being returned on this side the Straits; and you will excuse us if we do not believe, that he is to return this summer, especially since the Comte de Thoulouse is in his way, and in a condition to hinder him from attempting any thing of moment, except he could destroy this French fleet. You will see, by my last letters, that Verceil is lost, and that the garrison also is lost; we know not yet what we are to fear next, because M. de Vendôme does not yet seem determined which way he will attack us. It looks as if he expected the return of his courier from Versailles with new orders what to do. Some think his next attempt will be upon Ivrea; others believe that he

will come and attack us at our camp at Crescentin. He has forces sufficient for the execution of either of these designs, especially if he should take to his assistance the troops which are under the command of M. Albergotti in the Astesan. We do not yet feel the full effects of my Lord Marlborough's good fortune in Bavaria. We see three Marshals of France hastening with three armies to the relief of that Elector: we do not see the Emperor is sending any body to the assistance of of his Royal Highness, or to carry on his own war in Italy. I am sorry to perceive that you still think something might be done by management and negotiation with that Elector. It will be precious time lost to my Lord Marlborough, and we shall pay dear for it here. His Royal Highness is not yet discouraged; he has patience and resolution to expect the last extremities, in hopes he shall not be quite abandoned. He is very earnest with me to sign his treaty, and, indeed, I have not the heart to refuse him any thing in the condition he now is. I should not naturally consent to the payment of the subsidies for two months after the war is ended without her Majesty's orders, which I desired from you in my letters of the 22nd and 25th past; but the sacrifice which his Royal Highness makes, at present, of almost all his dominions will, I hope, excuse me if I do presume upon the generosity of the Queen and her ministers for the payment of 106,666 crowns more than was at first intended. His Royal Highness has lost Savoy; and one-fourth part of his dominions on this side the mountains are actually in possession of his enemies, or eaten up by the encampments and marches of his own troops. However, if I have this complaisance for his Royal Highness in this article, it shall be on condition to ascertain to the Vaudois a liberty of conscience, for which, at present, they have no very good security. "I shall religiously observe "the commands you give me, in yours of the 30th, concerning "the assistance of the Cevennois; but, indeed, it is not so easy "to send them any assistance, as some people do imagine. I "have been labouring these five months to send them 10,000 "crowns in money, and have had the assistance of the Dutch "minister. I have had 20 projects, and 20 projectors, but durst "not venture £10 of the Queen's money upon such unreasonable methods. I have now sent several ways to Roland, and "Ravenel, to let them know, that I have money for them in "my hands, if they will find a way to receive it." M. de

"Belcastel has been here about ten days, and has lost no "time; he does not find it so easy to raise a body of 3000 "men for the assistance of the Cevennois as he did believe, "or as they do believe who sent him." I hope by the next post to send you a state of that matter. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the 5th August, 1704.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship the last post, in answer to the letter which you were pleased to send to me the 27th June. I must now thank your Lordship for that which you were so good as to write to me the 4th July, by which I conclude that the Queen's fleet is to come again this summer into the Mediterranean. I hope in God that it will come; because I reckon that our two Knights must have beat the Comte de Thoulouse to the devil, before they can come. It is certain that my Lord Duke of Marlborough's expedition to the Danube, and his success there, have turned the perspectives, and shew us safety near, which was before even out of sight. But I pray you to excuse me, my Lord, if I can yet see nothing, which can give us the least hopes of attempting the great and glorious exploit, which I see you have still at heart. I will go to the camp, so soon as my Physician will let me, and sooner too. I will try if it is possible to get any help for Sir George, though I think it is not possible; and I fear Sir George can do nothing there alone. If he beats the Comte de Thoulouse well, it is a good summer's work. However, I will get down to him, so soon as I hear that he is in these seas, and be a witness of what he can, or cannot, do. You have reason, my Lord, to be angry with us for not making more haste with our embarcation at Nice; but, indeed, we were so persuaded of Cavallier's submission, which we thought, for some time, would include his whole party, that I could not persuade one officer to think it reasonable to go aboard. I had more reason afterwards than I have yet said to complain of the said officers; for of eight companies of soldiers, only one Captain would go at last, and only three subalterns; and of fifty other

officers who were commanded by his Royal Highness to go of those whom I had brought at the Queen's expense from Holland for this use, only thirty would go. Our friend Flotard had no vocation upon him neither now; and rather chose to go to Geneva, where I suppose he writes letters to himself from Roland, than to go with his brethren into Languedoc. It is a new trade, my Lord, to be a Camisard in England, and Holland; but there are a great many cheats who set up in that profession. I shall tell Mr. Secretary, if I can, to night, what Mons. Belcastel has done, and what he is doing. I send your Lordship an account here, as near as I can guess, what the expense of his army will be. We cannot raise 3000 men, unless we promise to keep them three years; and if we should begin our levies to morrow, I think it is still too late to have any use of them next spring. In the mean time we shall let Roland know what care is taking of him. I did save your Lordship's 8000 crowns, which I put aboard the Lyme, and I shall venture, I think, to send about 500 of them, to morrow, to Roland, by a way which seems reasonable; but I do fear I shall not get an acquittance. I am told Hugetan has been at Paris, to excuse himself to Mons. Chamillard for not being more punctual in the execution of his commissions. The Duke de Vendôme has been very gracious to us these fifteen days. I believe he expected new orders from Versailles, after the surrender of Verceil, and I believe the affairs of Bavaria have put them quite out of their play. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

Etat de la levée de 3000 hommes sur le pied Suisse en Piedmont, et de leur entretien.

	LIVRES.
La levée de 3 mille hommes sur le pied de la capitulation Suisse à 20 écus par tête, fait 60,000 écus	240,000.
La Paye de ces 3 mille hommes à 20l. de Piedmont pour mois monte à 60,000l. pour mois, et pour 12 mois à	720,000.
La Reine et les Etats doivent s'engager par la capitulation à entretenir ce corps pour 3 Ans. ainsi la paye des 2 autres Années sera	1,440,000.
Le 10 pour cent de gratification qu'il faudroit accorder aux Capitaines sur la paye des soldats	

	LIVRES.
qui sont effectifs, supposant qu'ils sont toûjours complets, montera pr. An. à	72,000.
Do. pour 2 autres années	144,000.
L'Etat Major de ces 3000 hommes est reglé en Hollande à f. 3000 g. pr. mois et pr. An. f. 36,000 g.	57,600.
Deux autres années de même.....	115,200.
3 mille fusils at 3 mille bayonettes couteront 3 mille Louis d'or	48,000.
Six cent Tentes couteront	3,000.
La Poudre, les Balles, et la munition à ce corps coutera.....	£2,771,800.

Ce sont des douceurs accordés pr. capitulation que je ne puis calculer.
- Les Etapes, les Chariots
- Dix jours de paye aux Recruits
- Un mois de Séjour aux Recruits
- Un mois des gages a près une victoire

To the Lord Treasurer.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, 5th August 1704.

Sir,

I am going to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters, with which you honoured me the 4th and 7th of July, S. V. I sent you, the last post, a list of the French fleet, which is sent to hinder Sir G. Rooke from coming up the Mediterranean. An officer of his Royal Highness, who is a Knight of Malta, and is just come from Toulon, says, it is a true list. He adds, that there was great indignation in France against the Comte de Thoulouse, because he did not attack the Queen's fleet, when he met it on the coasts of Spain. It is said the bigness of the French ships, and the convenience of being near their own coasts and ports, gave him advantage enough. If the two fleets are both in earnest now, to look for one the other, they will soon find what they seek for. The Duke of Vendôme begins now to be in motion after fifteen days' rest. He seems to have received orders to dismantle Verceil; and he seems to be determined to pass the Po, either to besiege Verrue, or to come down with all his forces into the plains of Piedmont.

I did hope to give you some account of M. Belcastel's negotiations to day; but I cannot do it so distinctly as I

would. I hope to do it by the next post. There are a great many difficulties in the execution of his project; and the expense is not inconsiderable. I have found a way, at last, to send some money, I hope, to Roland, and will venture about 200 pistoles for a trial, for which I desire you will please to procure me the Queen's approbation. The States will bear one-third of all I send; for I shall send none but by consent of their minister. There are 500 fire-arms aboard the Lyme, which would be of use to his Royal Highness at Nice, if the Queen will please to let them be landed there. I shall take such a receipt for them as will serve to pay for them, in the account of subsidies which her Majesty is to pay to his Royal Highness. I should have signed our treaty yesterday with his Royal Highness's ministers, if I had not found such objections to their powers, as they thought fit to have new ones. We do not yet hear that the body of Germans, which retired lately from Ostiglia into the Trentin, are turning their faces towards Lombardy. We wish 13,000 of the Queen's troops were there: we know what they would do. The French have used the Venetians, since they are on the territories of the Republic, with so much scorn and indignity, that one would think those pantaloons had lost the use of poison as well as the use of arms. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

P.S. I am just now advised that a felucca is come to Genoa, which left Barcelona the 20th July. When she came thence the Spanish Governor had received advice by a courier from Madrid that the Queen's fleet had passed the Straits, and this advice was sent to the Comte de Thoulouse.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{1st}{12th}$ August, 1704.

Sir,

The last letter, which I had the honour to receive from you, was of the 7th July, which I did acknowledge the 5th inst.; and since then I have no commands from you. I send you here a copy of a memorial which we thought fit to give to his Royal Highness in order to procure a sure and determinate answer upon the subject of M. Belcastel's journey hither. I send you the answer which we got to it; and though

we endeavoured to obtain a promise that the 3000 men to be raised by the Queen and the States should be appropriated to the assistance of the Cevennois, unless in case of any pressing necessity, wherein we were very willing they should be employed for the immediate service of his Royal Highness, we could obtain no such promise. I send you here a copy of the relation which M. de Belcastel does send to the States concerning this matter, and do submit it wholly to you. I do add a state of the expense of these 3000 men, for their levy, and for their entertainment for three years; for if we do raise them, we must capitulate to keep them so long. I will only add what I have told you formerly, that the Canton of Bern will suffer no levies to be made without their leave; and the other Cantons are of the same mind; nor will they suffer their subjects to serve for the assistance of the Cevennois. I have had a letter yesterday from Roland, by a man whom I sent to him two months since. He tells me they are in great extremities, and in want of every thing, and desire to be assisted with money to buy clothes and provisions. The account which this man brings of these poor people, is wonderful. They sing, they pray, and they fight; though they want food, and clothes, and arms. There are, he says, about 3000 of them, of whom 190 are a horseback. I find Mons. de Villars is still in negotiation with Roland by one Desgaliers, who is a Protestant it seems, but no Camisard. I have sent them some money, as I told you in my last, and am desirous to send them some more, in hopes her Majesty will please to approve of it. I have now signed the treaty with his Royal Highness,[1] and

[1] See this IMPORTANT TREATY in Appendix G of this Volume: for IMPORTANT it was, not only in a political point of view, according to the then circumstances of Europe, but in a religious point of view, since a secret article contained in it, directly secured (and that for a valuable consideration) to the Vaudois, or Waldensian churches in the valleys of Piedmont, their religious liberty. *This liberty to these Ancient Churches*, which had never succumbed to Papal Rome, *the British nation bought and paid for*. If the reader turn to page 388 of this volume, he will see in Mr. Hill's despatch of July $\frac{11}{22}$, 1704, his statement, that the Duke of Savoy required, not only a subsidy of 80,000 crowns per month during the war, but 80,000 crowns per month for two months after the war was ended, and a peace should be signed. This, however, exceeding Mr. Hill's instructions, he stated, that he dared not consent to it without orders from the British Sovereign. In an after-part of the same despatch the reader will see, that he states that the Duke of Savoy had promised him, six months before, a secret article in the treaty about

I only stay for the ratification, in order to send it to you for the ratification of her Majesty. By the great treaty, which is the base of what I have signed, the Emperor is obliged to entertain twenty thousand men in Piedmont, besides his army in Lombardy. The Emperor has not a man in Lombardy; and I reckon he has about 8000 in Piedmont. I dare not tell you how much I fear the consequences of this deficiency. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

to be negotiated, by which he would engage himself not to revoke the Edict by which the Vaudois were established in 1694, pursuant to the treaty of 1690, (which edict and treaty the reader may see in appendices E and F of this volume.) In Mr. Hill's despatch of July $\frac{14}{25}$th, 1704, (see page 391) he states that the Duke had again pressed him to sign his treaty with her Majesty (the Queen of England) but that he reintrenched himself *behind his Vaudois, whom he was resolved not to abandon*, and that he thought he should obtain an article in their favour if he would consent to the payment of the two months' subsidies which were demanded. In his despatch of August 1st, 1704, N.S. the reader will see he again states, that, the Duke of Savoy was very earnest with him to sign his treaty, but he says, that *if he had the complaisance for his Royal Highness to sign the article for the payment of* 106,666 *crowns*[1] *more than was at first intended, it should be on the condition to ascertain to the Vaudois a liberty of conscience for what they had then no very good security.* In his despatch of August $\frac{1}{12}$, 1704, he states, that he had signed the treaty with his Royal Highness. *In this treaty is the secret article* securing that which Mr. Hill had laboured for. In the fourth article of the treaty the Duke of Savoy binds himself to confirm, and does confirm, the secret article of the treaty of October 1690 relative to these poor and interesting people. After reciting that treaty, between the King of England, the States-General, and the Duke of Savoy, his Royal Highness restores and secures to the Vaudois, their children, and posterity, the possession of all their ancient rights, customs, and privileges, in regard to their habitations, traffic, the exercise of their religion, and other claims.

Thus England, to her immortal honour, through the agency of Mr. Richard Hill (whom the Pastors of the Vaudois looked upon so highly, for what he had done for them, as to place him at the head of their Nehemiahs,)[2] may be said to have bought of the Duke of Savoy *the religious liberty of the Vaudois*, and she has a right to expect that these people should have entire liberty of conscience, and unrestricted freedom of religious worship: and not only has she a right to expect it, but to demand of Sardinia faithfulness to the engagements of a solemn treaty, and, if she refuse, a right to compel her to give her that which she bought and paid for in hard cash. Had the motive never come to light, (as it now does by these letters,) which induced Mr. Hill to exceed

[1] Being two-thirds of 80,000 crowns per month for two months.

[2] See a letter, introduced into this volume, in the appendix containing papers in connection with those people.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the $\frac{1st}{12th}$ August, 1704.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship the 5th; but I refer myself to what I did write to you, the 1st of July, and desire you will be pleased to read some part of it over again, if you have not thrown it away. I have a man with me now, whom I sent to Roland 2 months since. He gives me a better account of the misery and necessity of these poor people than of their forces. Roland writes to me himself, and desires no assistance so much as some ready money to buy bread; and it looks as if they wanted the Queen's charity more than her subsidies. I am preparing to send them 200 pistoles to day; though I am discouraged from it, because I paid a bill of a 100 pistoles the last week, upon a letter of advice from Nismes, of the 10th July, which assured me, that our correspondent there had paid to Roland so much; yet the man, who left Roland the 18th, assures me, that they had not then received one penny. I must beg Flotard's pardon, my Lord, and do him justice to your Lordship, since this man does assure me, that he was with Roland the last summer. "I know not what to think of the Duke "of Vendôme's inaction. It is 20 days since the surrender "of Verceil; and in less time the three French armies, which "besiege Piedmont, might have invested Turin. All I can "guess is, that his Royal Highness is endeavouring to cheat "his enemies, or to abuse his friends. I cannot get 50 men "here for the assistance of Sir G. Rooke, and I have wrote

his instructions, and, without orders or leave from the British Sovereign, to allow the Duke of Savoy a gratuitous subsidy of 106,666 crowns, the treaty itself ought to be sufficient to shew the Sardinian Government, that the Vaudois have an undoubted right to liberty of conscience and freedom from the oppression which they now suffer. The motive, however, now appearing as it does, why England gratuitously paid 106,666 crowns after the war was ended, does indeed, strengthen their claim, as also the right of England to demand, that they have full liberty of conscience and a freedom from oppression. In the Secretary of State's despatch to Mr. Hill of 11th August, (see page 142), he approves of his signing for the extra two month's subsidies if he had signed; but if he had not he empowers him to do so, on the two conditions of making the best terms he could for her Majesty, and securing an article in favour of the Vaudois. Surely a British Protestant-Government will not be backward to discharge their duty, and see that the terms of the treaty, in reference to the Vaudois, are abided by.

"to Nice and to Genoa to tell him so." I have expended about £1000 in my expedition at Nice and that service; and I desire your Lordship will please to let Mr. Taylour pay so much to Sir James Bateman upon that account. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to M. Flotard.

A Turin, ce 14e d' Aoust, 1704.

Monsieur,

J'ay reçu les lettres que vous avez pris la peine de m' écrire, le 2e, et le 9e. Mais je vous avoue que j'ay de la peine à entrer en commerce avec vous, tant vous prenez les choses vivement et sur des suppositions quelque fois mal fondées. Je vous ay dit, que je n'étois qu'un subalterne, et ne pouvois disposer de l'argent de la Reine: que les sources du secours pour les Cevennois, étoient à Londres et à la Haie; que les projets des armées sous le commandement du P. de Hesse, et du Marquis de Miremont étoient beaux et bons, mais que les Cevennois n'en seroient pas consolés: que nous devions nous soumettre aux ordres de nos supérieurs. Je vous ay dit que je croyois le secours de l'argent le plus prompt et vous ay demandé les moyens pour leur en faire tenir. Vous ne me les avez pas expliqué d'une façon à me faire croire qu'ils étoient practicables. Vous m'aviez dit que vous étiés sous serment de ne pas dire les noms de vos correspondants après cela je ne les ay jamais demandé, ni les ay jamais voulu sçavoir. J'ay demandé votre projet en écrit, et je l'ay envoyé là bas; on ne l'a pas jugé seur; et je n'ay pas eu des ordres la dessus. J'avois de l'argent, des armes, &c., que je croyois leur envoyer par mer. Cela a manqué. On a taché de leur faire toucher de l'argent par les mains des marchands, et devant, et après votre arrivée dans ce pays: on n'a pas eu meilleur succès. Ce n'est pas, je vous dis encore, aux noms de vos correspondants que je m'arrête. C'est au peu de seureté qui paroit dans l'exécution de votre projet; et de peur d' être desadvoué, après y avoir été trompé par des semblables tentatives. Nous sommes bien surpris, et M. L'Envoyé d' Hollande et moy, de voir par la lettre du frère Roland du pour d'Aoust, qu'il n' avoit pas reçu 100 louis d'or que nous lui avions envoyé au commencement de Juillet. Mais si vous *voulez donner*, comme vous dites dans votre lettre du 2e *unré-*

pondant à Genève pour les sommes qu'on vous confiera jusques à ce que vous produisez les reçus des chefs des Cevenols, nous prierons Messrs Lullin et Nicolas de vous compter à Lyons la valeur de 100 louis d'or en espèces, sur des semblables cautions. Le nommé Roquenol a été envoyé en Languedoc il y a plus de 3 mois, pour aviser Cavallier de tenir bon, sur le refus que vous faisiez d'y aller. Il n'a peu détournir Cavallier ; mais il a été auprès du frère Roland, et nous a porté de ses lettres. Gardez vous bien, je vous prie, de traiter cet homme d'imposteur. Il a eu ordre de les assurer que l'on leur envoyeroit de l'argent des que l'on trouveroit les moyens, et de leur demander ces moyens ; en attendant qu'on levat des troupes en Angleterre sous les ordres du Marquis de Miremont, et par deça sous les ordres de M. de Belcastel. Ces levées se font actuellement, et je vous prie de le faire sçavoir à vos amis. Vous trouverez ici une lettre sur Messrs Lullin et Nicolas pour 100 louis d'or, et dés que vous nous ferez tenir les reçus que vous promettez, nous vous en fournirons encore. Je suis, &c.

A M. Flotard, à Genève. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Sir. G. Rooke.

Turin, the $\frac{7}{18}$th August, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you from Nice, in June, by the Charles-Galley, and by the Garland. I hope my letters, at least I hope those ships, got safe to you. I did not then expect to hear any more of you in these seas this summer. Since I do hear that you are coming up again, I am in great anxiety for you, and for your honour, and for the fate of old England. The Comte de Thoulouse is gone out of Toulon the 16th past; though he did not get clear of the Isles of Hieres till the 22nd, and he has orders, they say, to beat you. However, I am persuaded that he did not expect to meet you in the Mediterranean, and that he will be sorry to meet you. If he does come in your way, beat him soundly for God's sake. When you have beat him, you may do what you will. I hope you will do all the mischief that you can to every thing you meet, for they are all enemies, more or less. The French take all ships, Venetians, Genoese, Florentines, &c., if they find them laden from England, Holland, or Portugal. I hope you take every thing which is laden with French or Spanish goods.

When you have beaten Thoulouse, which must be the foundation of all blessings, I hope you will make us clean work as you did at Vigo, though you should be roasted again for so doing at Winter. I hope you have still at heart the execution of a good and a great design, which was communicated to you by my Lord Nottingham. But I must tell you, that you must expect no help from me, nor from all my solicitations here. Whatever you have to do, you must do it all yourself. I cannot help you to 50 men. I must tell you, that we are at present in no danger at Nice of being besieged there. We shall be in danger there, when your fleet is gone out of these seas, or in February next, when there is no fear of your ships. I know not what mischief you can do upon the coasts of Languedoc, or of Provence; but I hope you will do all you can. If you could carry away the salt, or destroy the salt-works at the Isles of Hieres, you would affect the King of France very sensibly in his revenues. If you could send 3 or 400 tons of that salt to Villa-Franca, or a 1000 tons, which the Duke of Savoy would be glad to pay for, it would be of great benefit to these countries. If you can send two or three frigates, sustained by two ships, into the Gulf of Lyons, with some soldiers aboard to go ashore to do a little mischief, and to make a show of doing more, and to give out, that they are to join the Camisards with arms and with money, you will oblige the Maréchal de Villars to run to the coasts with all his troops, and militia, which will afflict that Province of Languedoc, and favour our poor friends in the Cevennes more than you do imagine. You may send with more ease your frigates, and your armed boats ashore, along the coasts of Provence, where the bays are safe, and where there are no troops at present. All the mischief you do, or all the alarms you will give there, will give us great ease and relief here, and will give great disquiet, and cause great expense to the Queen's enemies. I hope you will order a frigate or two to look into Villa-Franca as you pass by Nice. If you could spare 2 or 300 barrels of powder there, and as much lead as you will, if you have any, it would be a great kindness to his Royal Highness, who would allow the price of all in diminution of his subsidies. I hope you will have a great many prisoners, more than you know what to do with. You will not cut off their hands I know; you will not care to employ them on the Queen's ships, though the French do

employ the Queen's subjects both at sea and on land. If you have more than you use, pray send them to Villa-Franca. I will exchange them for the Queen's subjects, or will give them to his Royal Highness, who has great need of them to ransom his officers and soldiers, who are prisoners in the hands of the French. If you have good store of the enemies' officers in your hands, I hope you will send them to Villa-Franca for that purpose. The French have been constantly carrying their military stores and provisions from the Ports of Provence to Genoa for the use of their armies in Italy. I believe you will find their ships, their barks, and their magazines at St. Pietro d' Arena; and I hope you will try to burn them with your frigates, and your boats, as you pass that way. The French have usually three, or sometimes four, galleys at Antibes; and one or two galleys at Monaco; and their barks, tartanes, coasters, and small craft usually harbour in those ports, when there is any danger in keeping at sea. Antibes is pretty well fortified, and I think you could do nothing there, besides throwing a few bombs in amongst them; but if you would destroy the Port of Monaco, the Governer of Nice would help you to do it, and it will be no hard matter. I made the best use I could of the Lyme, and Mary-Galley. I sent them upon the coasts of Languedoc; but the soldiers, whom I sent with them aboard three tartanes, were separated at sea, and we had not the success which we hoped. However, upon the advice which the enemies had of our frigates going from Villa-Franca, the Camisards were encouraged, by the notice which we sent them, to hold out. The Comte de Thoulouse sent 6 ships and 4 galleys into the bottom of the Gulf of Lyons: the Maréchal de Villars ran down to the coasts with all his troops: the whole province was in alarm, &c. The Lyme and Mary-Galley came back safe to Villa-Franca. But at the time they came in there, I reckoned you were got through the Straits; the Comte de Thoulouse's ships filled the seas of Provence; so that it was not safe to send the two frigates westward. I did, therefore, venture to send them for 20 days along the coasts of Italy, with directions to come in again to Villa-Franca, from whence I design to send them to you, and I hope they will give you a good account of their cruise. I think my Lord Orford had power from the late King, and from the Emperor, to exact contributions from the Genoese, on account

of several fiefs, which that Republic, or the members of it, do hold of the Empire. I did desire that you might have the like powers from Vienna, and from London. I had an answer from my Lord Nottingham, by which I saw the Queen's council were not then desirous to mortify or provoke the Genoese. I had no answer at all to purpose from the Imperial minister, to whom I did apply myself. The Grand Duke of Tuscany is also a *feudataire* of the Empire. If your orders are to mortify him severely, I think he ought to be forced to pay 100,000, or 200,000 crowns to the Emperor. You will wonder why I am so solicitous to get money for the Emperor, unless I tell you, that his forces in Italy do want it more than you can imagine. We have great reason you know to be always angry with the Pope, who gives us so solemnly every year to the devil; but the present Pope is so very partial to our enemies, that it were just to make him feel the weight of the Queen's indignation. If you could destroy his ports and galleys at Civita Vecchia, or Neptuno; or, by landing some men, could burn and destroy his coasts; or raise contributions upon his subjects, it would be better than burning his Holiness in Cheapside. I have enquired of the Imperial ministers if you could do any thing in Naples, or Sicily, for the service of our King of Spain, or the common interests. They say, yes; but they would never tell me what they would have you do, nor would give me any thing in writing; or would shew me any marks, that they have any solid or real engagements in those countries. I am informed just now, by the Emperor's minister, that he has letters for you from his master, and other letters which he desires you would deliver from the Emperor to the Duke of Florence, and to the State of Genoa. I hope you are empowered from London to require good answers to those letters. I send this letter for you to Nice, in hopes it will get to you from thence. I shall lodge another for you at Genoa, and when I hear for certain, that you are coming into these seas, I shall write to you again, and endeavour, perhaps, to get aboard you. My Lord Duke of Marlborough is doing wonders on the Danube, where the Elector of Bavaria pays for the rods with which he is chastised. We have been used severely here this summer in Piedmont, by a saucy enemy, who is superior to us. I am, &c.

To Sir G. Rooke. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the $\frac{8}{19}$th August, 1704.

My Lord,

I have acknowledged the receipt of those bills, by which his Royal Highness is paid to the 2nd October, inclusive. I did not think I should have been desired to importune your Lordship any more, for some time. But the extremities of his Royal Highness are such, that his ministers are very desirous to draw bills on the Comte de Briançon for payment of the two months' subsidies which begin to be due the 3rd of October, upon which bills they hope to find credit with some bankers; and I am desired to advise your Lordship of this transaction. If your Lordship has made any provision for remitting hither what shall be due for October and November, the Comte de Briançon will be paid with reason. If your Lordship has made no such provision, I hope it will be indifferent to your Lordship, whether the Comte de Briançon, or Mons. Tourton does receive those two months; because I suppose your Lordship will pay no more to the Comte than you would pay to the merchant. The advantage will be great to his Royal Highness if he can get these 106,666$\frac{2}{3}$ [crowns] advanced to him here, upon the credit of these bills, which your Lordship will have time to pay when you see good. I can say no more to day, but that I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{8}{19}$th August, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you, the $\frac{1st}{12th}$. Since then I have received no commands from you. I did send you then as large an account as I did think necessary of Mons. Belcastel's negotiation here. I did send you, on the 14th inst., the treaty, which I had signed with his Royal Highness, for the Queen's ratification; and I sent that which his Royal Highness had ratified to the Comte de Briançon. I sent them by express as far as Zurich, and have taken the best care I could to get them safe to Mr. Stanhope. His Royal Highness did most earnestly desire me, that his treaty with the Emperor may be kept as secret as is possible. I have been some time at

the camp, to wait upon his Royal Highness. I thought "fit "to complain to his Royal Highness of the undissembled joy "which appeared at Turin upon the noise, and belief, which "they had there of a sudden peace with France. I was an- "swered with every thing which might give me the strongest "assurances of his Royal Highness's steadiness, and constancy, "to suffer the last extremities. I was trusted with some com- "pliments and advances which La Feuilliade had made to the "Duke's officer, who commands in the valleys, and with the "answers which were made to them, which were as honest as "I could desire. I found Count Guido, and the Count d'Avers- "berg under no apprehensions; and the preparations which "the Duke de Vendôme is making for the siege of Ivrea give "us new assurances of his Royal Highness's resolution. We "cannot but be amazed at the indolence, or weakness, of the "Court of Vienna, which sends nothing yet but promises and "projects for continuing the war in Lombardy; a war which "does cost to our enemies above 100 battalions, and as many "squadrons, which will be employed in other places, if they "are useless here." I am, &c., &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Messrs. Lullin & Nicolas.

A Turin, ce 19e Aoust 1704.

Messieurs,

Comme Mons. Le Gen. des Finances a trouvé à propos de vous envoyer des lettres de change, qu'il tire sur M. Le Comte Briançon pour 106,666⅔ écus, dont il souhaite recevoir la valuer ici par vos mains, je suis entré dans ses veües et ses raisons, qui sont très justes. J'ay pris sur moy d'en informer la Reine, et j'ay écrit aujourd'hui à my Lord Godolphin pour lui donner avis de ces traits sur M. de Briançon, et pour le prier de faire provision pour le payement de cette somme à Londres. Je suis bien persuadé qu'il le fera, puisqu'il lui est fort indifférent ou de faire des remises ici, ou de payer ces lettres de change à Londres, par rapport à la Reine, et comme S. A. R. trouve mieux son compte à faire tirer des lettres de change, qu' à attendre des remises. Je suis seur que my Lord Godolphin aura cette complaisance pour elle. On n'a pas encore fait aucune provision ici pour le payement des

subsides qui seront deues. Au commencement d'Octobre, et nos lettres viendront à Londres à tems pour les faire payer aux ordres du Comte de Briançon. Je suis, &c.

A Messieurs Lullin & Nicolas, HILL.
Banquiers, à Genève.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{11}{22}$th August, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you the last post; since then his Royal Highness has communicated to me a letter which the Duke de la Feuilliade sent to him, by which he desires, in very respectful terms, to employ himself and his father-in-law, Mons. de Chamillard, to accommodate his Royal Highness's affairs at the Court of France. Our Duke has made no answer, as he says, to this letter. I know he has sent away the original of it immediately to the Emperor, with great protestations and assurances, that he will never be separated from the interests of his allies for whom he will suffer the utmost extremities. We had, two days since, an express from Switzerland, which brought us advice of a second battle, and complete victory obtained by my Lord Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene on the Danube. We expect every moment an express from one of those glorious men, with a more certain account of that action; but, in the mean time, we abandon ourselves to all the excess of joy and satisfaction, which such a blessing will require. The very report of this victory does us more good than the 10 or 12 thousand Imperialists which lie useless in Tyrol, and which can come no nearer to us, for want of shoes, and every thing else. The Emperor is exposed to the hazard of losing all footing in Italy, for want of 100,000 crowns to set those troops in motion. We have some uncertain reports here, by the way of Lyons, as if the Queen's fleet had met with the enemies, and beat them. We are very much disposed to believe, that the Queen's arms are to be successful every where; that the English and the French are to be as they were 300 years since. I am assured, that Capt. Rigby, who took pains to make himself so known in London, some years since, is now aboard the Comte de Thoulouse. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{15}{26}$th August, 1704.

Sir,

I have received the honour of your letter, of the 18th past. I think I have said as much as I need to say, concerning my expedition to Nice, and also concerning Mons. Belcastel's negotiations here. I wish the Marquis de Miremont may be more successful, with all my heart. But it is upon the banks of the Danube that the Queen must save her allies, and determine the fate of Europe. I hope, Sir, it is not intended to send the "Marquis de Miremont" hither "without troops." He will find none here, "none who will obey him." His "Royal Highness" knows "the Marquis" perfectly well. The Duke of Vendôme is now within five miles of Ivrea, and would, I believe, be nearer to it, if the Duke of Marlborough had not hindered him the 13th inst. That strange man has fixed us with amazement. Our enemies in Italy believe that he is a Hun, a Goth, a very Attila. They are afraid of him at Rome, and at Florence, where they picture him like a Saracen, with a great broad square flat face, and two great round eyes as large as a platter. Our friends on this side the Alps, for there are some now who dare own themselves so, picture him like the Angel Gabriel announcing salvation to the world. Both our friends and our enemies imagine, that he is to come into Italy now he has saved the Empire; and, indeed, nothing else can save us here, but he, or Prince Eugene, with a fresh army of Imperialists. Nothing less can keep the war alive in Italy, where the enemies have now above 100 battalions, and as many squadrons, which melt like snow in this warm sun, every summer, which are of infinite expense to the French King, and which will be upon the Rhine, or the Maese, next summer, if nothing is done to employ them here. I reckon the Comte de Linange's troops for nothing, who have neither shoes, nor boots, nor bread to eat if they leave their quarters in Tyrol. I hope my Lord Duke of Marlborough has more prisoners than he knows what to do with. I fear he will not cut off their hands, nor drown them in the Danube, and, therefore, I wish he would give about 3000 of them to his Royal Highness, to be exchanged for those officers, and soldiers, which we want here. I have wrote to his Grace, to that purpose, at the instance of his Royal Highness. I have letters from Genoa and Leghorn, which say, that Sir Geo. Rooke

had bombarded Gibraltar; that he had landed 2000 men, and that he had taken the place; that the Comte de Thoulouse had orders to go and beat the Queen's fleet out of the Mediterranean; but he makes no haste to execute these orders. I believe he still expects more ships from Toulon. The Lyme and Mary-Galley have been cruising as high as Naples, but to little purpose. They are now come into Leghorn, and I expect them very quickly at Villa-Franca. It is very dangerous for them to venture further Westwards yet. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Duke of Marlborough.

Turin, the 26th August, 1704, S.N.

My Lord,

I cannot express the diffusive joys, to which I have abandoned my soul, ever since your Grace is upon the Danube, for the honour which you have done to our Queen, to our country, and to yourself, by saving the Emperor, the Empire, and all Europe. The Lord reward you for it: for every thing which the Queen, the Emperor, or your country, can do to fix a mark of their gratitude upon your services will be far short of their merits. I suppose you are to be a Prince of the Empire by this time, or what you please. Prince of Donawert, or Schellenberg, or Hochstet, will be an honourable addition to your name. But I beg of your Grace not to leave the name of Marlborough. It is under that name, that you did such actions as are to be transmitted to posterity without confusion. You have a great deal more to do yet; and though you will have glory enough to divide between several titles, yet I hope you will keep it all to the Duke of Marlborough, in which every Englishman will have a little share with relation to his country, so long as the Danube runs, or so long as people read histories. It is Marlborough that took Cork, and Kinsale! It is the same who appeared on the Mease so gloriously in 1702, and 1703! It is the same who marched from the sea to the Danube in 1704! It is the same who will be in Spain, in Lombardy, or in France, I hope, in 1705; and, therefore, I beseech you to keep this name, whatever accessions are made to it. It is what your Grace did the 13th, at Hochstet, which gives me liberty to write thus. For since

the news of that monstrous victory is come hither, the enemies, which were ready to eat us up, do nothing but stare at us. However, my Lord, I hope you will not forget us. For if the Duke of Vendôme should take it into his head to do something like what your Grace has done, he might end the war in Italy, and leave the enemies at liberty to send 100 battalions, and 100 squadrons from thence to meet your Grace the next summer somewhere. I told your Grace in my last, that we have no relief from the Comte de Linange, and his useless troops, which cannot stir from their quarters in Tyrol. If you cannot come yourself into Lombardy, we hope Prince Eugene will come, and the winter is the best time to make war there, because the enemies are then the weakest. But we cannot hold out till winter without relief. I hope your Grace has more prisoners than you know what to do with. I believe you will not drown them, nor cut off their right hands, and, therefore, I hope your Grace will give about 3000 of them, or so many officers as will make up that value, to his Royal Highness for the ransom of his men, who are in the French hands, which would be an act of great generosity in your Grace, and of great use to us here. I have letters from Genoa, and Leghorn, which say, that Sir G. Rooke had bombarded Gibraltar; that he had landed two thousand men, and that he had taken the place. The Duke de Vendôme is within five miles of Ivrea, but, I believe, he stays for orders to attack it, since the news of Hochstet may break all his measures. I am, &c.

To the Duke of Marlborough. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, August the $\frac{18}{29}$th, 1704.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship ten days since, and I should not have troubled you again to day, if I were not afraid that this may be the last day that our courier will pass through Switzerland. My last letter was to desire your Lordship to let the Comte de Briançon receive the subsidies which shall be due for October and November in London, for payment of the bills which shall be drawn on him. It was at the instance of his Royal Highness, and his treasurer, that I wrote to your Lordship to that purpose. If your

Lordship shall have ordered those two months to be remitted hither, before the bills which are drawn hence shall come to London, it is just what is most desired here, for then the bankers of Geneva must stay for their reimbursement on the months of December and January.

We are obliged to my Lord Duke of Marlborough for the freedom which I have to write to your Lordship so long from hence. The enemies have done nothing but stare upon us, since the news is come of what was done at Hochstet, the 13th inst.; and if that glorious action has all its natural consequences, the charms are broke with which France has entangled Europe these 40 years past. When I came from London I had powers to try what could be done at Florence, and at Venice. Perhaps, the time is now come to see what may be done there. If that Republic would come into the common interests, it would have great weight with regard to the war in Italy, not, indeed, by its forces, which are less than is believed, but by its situation, and the reputation which they have in Italy. If you are of opinion, my Lord, that it will be to any purpose, I am ready to undertake the journey, and to do my best. I have told your Lordship, in my letter of August 1st, and I have also told Mr. Secretary, that I had consented to engage the Queen for the payment of two months' subsidies after the peace should be made. I told you some of the reasons which induced me to that complaisance. I must now add, that I was persuaded, that these "100 and odd thousand "crowns would be a great motive to his Royal Highness to "hold out till the general peace was made. If he does hold "out so long, they are well laid out. If he does not, the "Queen is not charged with this sum. My Lord Marlborough "has put me out of all disquiet here for the present. But I "desire your Lordship's advice for the future. It might "so have happened that Comte Guido, and his little army, "might have been forced to leave Piedmont. Would your "Lordship, in such a case, have been willing to pay to "the Imperialists those subsidies, or some part of them, which "are now paid to his Royal Highness, which would enable "them to continue the war in Lombardy? I think the case "will not happen just now; but if it should, it will then be too "late to ask your Lordship's advice. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the 2nd September, 1704, S. N.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you the last week: since then I have no commands from you. I could, indeed, expect none; because the Elector of Bavaria, with his flying squadrons, is got in the way of our posts in Suabia, and the Duke of Vendôme shuts up our way at Ivrea. The Duke of Marlborough will soon clear all the frontiers of Suabia; and we hope that we shall, for some time, find a way for our letters from hence into Switzerland over the mountains. His Royal Highness has received letters from Prince Eugene, since the 13th past, by which we are assured, that the Prince will come into Italy again. But, if he must follow the Elector to the Rhine, we shall grow weary here of all those victories. The Comte de Linange sends word, that he will march towards Lombardy so soon as he has received what is absolutely necessary for his troops. One of our party took a French courier going to the Duke of Vendôme. We find, by the letters which he carried, that there is a treaty made between the Pope and the French King for the peace of Italy; that they are pressing the Republic of Venice to come into the same measures. We find the Duke of Vendôme does promise to take Ivrea in 15 days, and afterwards besiege Verrue, and take it; that he pretends to take winter-quarters in the plains of Piedmont, and to open the campaign with the siege of Turin next spring. The Duke de la Feuilliade was to assist with his little army in all these designs, and is already marched from Pignerol, in order to come and disquiet us by the way of Suze, whilst all our attention is at Ivrea.

We sung our *Te Deums* here with great ceremony, and at the camp, at which I assisted; and, indeed, every body does great justice to the Queen, and to her General.

I have letters to day from Genoa, which confirm the taking of Gibraltar by the Queen's fleet, and add, that Sir G. Rooke had left a garrison there of English, and of such Spaniards as would take an oath of fidelity to King Charles the 3rd. We have no hopes now of seeing the Queen's fleet this year in these seas. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the 2nd September, 1704, S. N.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship, the $\frac{8}{19}$th past, at the instance of his Royal Highness, and his ministers, desiring you would please to let the Comte de Briançon receive, in London, the subsidies which are intended for his Royal Highness for October and November. I did repeat this request to your Lordship in my letter of the $\frac{18}{29}$th past. I am now to tell your Lordship, that the bills which were drawn on the Comte de Briançon are become useless. The siege of Ivrea cuts off all communication with Geneva; and now I must desire your Lordship to have no regard to what was desired by my said letters, of the 19th and 29th past; but that you will please to remit the subsidies for October and November by the hands of Mr. Tourton and company as if nothing had been said. Our sea-letters, by the way of Genoa, say, that Sir G. Rooke had left an English garrison at Gibraltar, with as many Spaniards as would take an oath of fidelity to King Charles the 3rd. We have all the real joy and pleasure to talk of my Lord Duke of Marlborough, and his heroic exploits; but we see nothing yet in motion towards the Adige, or the Mincio, which is the only thing which can save us here, and keep this expensive murderous war alive in Italy, where the enemies bury more men, and more treasure, than they will do any where else, unless they would come again in my Lord Marlborough's way. I hope his Grace will let us give him "Highness" with all my heart; but I hope you will not let him leave the name of Marlborough, under which he has got such honour to himself, and his country; and since he has so much more to get, I would not have posterity puzzled in our histories. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

N.B. Mr. Hill wrote to Capt. Dolman, the 7th September, 1704, S.N. and sent him the two following orders, viz. :—

Whereas his Royal Highness and his ministers have represented to me the extreme necessity in which these countries are for want of salt, which is of the utmost consequence, as well for the subsistence of these people, as for the revenues of his Royal Highness, and, whereas his Royal Highness has

desired that you would go with the Lyme and Mary-Galley to Genoa to convoy from thence such barks and tartanes as shall be laden with salt for the service of his Royal Highness, and to see them safe into Villa-Franca: I do desire you to sail, so soon as ever you can be cleaned, with the Lyme and Mary-Galley to Genoa, and to bring from thence as many vessels, as you shall find laden for Villa-Franca, in safety, keeping your designs as private as you can.

To Capt. Dolman, &c. RICH. HILL.

Whereas his Royal Highness is in the greatest want of arms, and powder, I do desire you to deliver the 500 firelocks, and the 500 bayonets, which came from England aboard the Lyme, or Mary-Galley, to the Intendant of Nice, and I desire you to deliver to the said Intendant the 96 barrels of powder, which you brought from Leghorn, if he is willing to receive them, taking double, and distinct, receipts for the arms which do belong to the Queen, and for the powder which does belong to private men.

To Capt. Dolman, &c. RICH. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the 9th September, 1704, S. N.

Sir,

I had the honour to write to you the 2nd inst., and I still continue to write by the way of Switzerland, because we have found a blind way over the tops of the Alps never known before. This way will serve us, so long as the enemies are busy about Ivrea. If they take that place, and keep a garrison in it, we must look out for some other passages. In the mean time Count Guido hopes to get 6 or 700 recruit-horses by these ways into Piedmont, which have been a great while upon the road. The last week his Royal Highness received a letter from Cavallier, who had formerly done so good service in Languedoc. He says he had saved himself from the hands of his enemies who were leading him to Brisach; that he was come to Lausanne, and that he would come on to offer his services to his Royal Highness if they might be agreeable; that he had 100 of his own men with him, who would follow him any where. I went to the camp immedi-

ately, and desired his Royal Highness to accept the offers of a man who had been so useful, and who might still be so; that I would answer for the sincerity of his intentions; that if his Royal Highness would take him immediately into his service, and employ him with his troop in the Valleys, I hoped he might augment his number, and form a battalion; that the encouragement which was given to him might animate the Camisards, and keep their party alive in the Cevennes, and give new zeal and vigour to the levies which the Queen and the States were about to make in England and Holland; that the refusal of Cavallier's good offers would have the contrary effects; and, lastly, that I would write to London, and did not doubt but that I should have such orders from the Queen as would take these people off his Royal Highness's hands, if he found they were not for his purpose. His Royal Highness did consent very generously to receive them, sent a gracious letter to Cavallier to invite him hither, settled a route for him, and for all the men he had, or could bring with him, and sent him 100 pistoles to bear his expenses over the mountains. I must say, that I look upon him, at present, as his Royal Highness's officer; but I shall receive him here as if he were to be the Queen's officer upon occasion. So soon as he arrives I shall give you a farther account of him. I would now shew you, Sir, the condition we are in here, as plainly as I can. The Duke of Vendôme is besieging Ivrea with about 15,000 men, of whom 3000 are already sick. The town is seated on the side of the Doire, about 24 miles from hence; but the enemies have not troops enough to pass the river, and invest the place; so that his Royal Highness sends in daily every thing which they want. We can hear, from our ramparts here, every cannon and every mortar which is fired upon the place; but we are not much affected now with that noise. We live and hope to be saved by the merits of my Lord Duke of Marlborough's last victory on the Danube; and we cannot imagine that the Emperor will now abandon all his interests in Italy. The French and Spaniards have 116 battalions, and 158 squadrons in Italy, with which they did believe it was more easy to drive his Royal Highness out of his dominions than it would be to reduce the Elector of Bavaria, who was assisted, and supported, by three Mareschals of France. We are obliged to the activity of the Duke of Marlborough, and to the gentle-

ness of the Duke of Vendôme, that we are still at Turin, and the Elector forced to pass the Rhine. In the mean time, these mighty armies of the French and Spaniards are so diminished by sickness and desertion, that we are pretty much at ease, though our little army at Crescention is extenuated in proportion, because we think that Prince Eugene will now be at liberty to look towards Lombardy, and then we know that the Duke de Vendôme will be obliged to send great part of his forces to the Adige. He has already sent 21 squadrons to the Grand Prior, upon the appearances which there were lately, that the Comte de Linange was coming down out of Tyrol; though those appearances were soon over. I did send you in my last a copy of a letter, which I received from Nismes, by which you would see that two officers, whom I had embarked at Nice, who fell into the enemies' hands at sea, upon the coasts of Italy, had been sent to France, and put to death, though the vessel, on which they were taken, had a letter of marque, and the officers had commissions in their pockets. I cannot but repeat this action to you again, which lies heavy upon my spirits, not knowing how far the Queen's ministers may think fit to advise her Majesty to use reprisals. The Lyme and Mary-Galley are come safe again into Villa-Franca, having ranged all the coasts of Italy, and met nothing. His Royal Highness and his ministers have desired me, in writing, to let these two frigates go as far as Genoa, to convoy from thence some vessels laden with salt, for want of which the people of Piedmont and the revenues of his Royal Highness are in great disorder. I believe I shall venture to send the two frigates upon this errand, which is of such great consequence to his Royal Highness, and of little danger to the Queen's ships. Sir, I just now receive the honour of your letters, of the 4th and the 11th of August. If they do bring me any commands I shall exactly obey them. By all the letters which I have seen from France and Spain, it looks as if the Comte de Thoulouse expected to see Sir G. Rooke decamp first. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the $\frac{1st}{12th}$ September, 1704.

My Lord,

The last post did bring me some bills of exchange, from

Mr. Fox, for 106,666⅔ crowns, with which your Lordship pays the subsidies, which will be due to his Royal Highness, for October and November. I am desired by him to tell your Lordship how very sensible his Royal Highness is of the great and good care you take of him, of which he is the more sensible, because you are the only just ally that he has. We were in hopes that Prince Eugene, or the glorious Duke of Marlborough, would have come to our relief, after the battle of Hochstet. We are now wearing off those hopes, since these two heroes are carrying their fortune to the Rhine. We would now be satisfied if the Guttensteins, and the Tierhimbs, and the Linanges, would come into Lombardy. I am not in haste to make an end of the war in Italy on our side: I am only afraid the enemies should make an end of it. I care not who gets Italy, provided they would be always fighting for it. I did myself the honour to write to your Lordship, the 29th August, and the 2nd September; and I am afraid of troubling you again so soon. I have some reasons to believe, that the Republic of Venice have never sent a solemn embassy to the Queen upon her accession to the throne, because they would avoid all occasions of being pressed, by the Queen's ministers, to come into the common interests of Europe. But I do think the time is now come to press them. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{1st}{12th}$ September, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you, the 9th inst; but I had not time to do more than just to own the receipt of your letters, of the 4th and 11th August. I must now thank you for them, and for the liberty which the Queen is pleased to give me to sign the treaty with his Royal Highness, which will, I hope, excuse what I had ventured to do, when I thought it was necessary. Indeed, Sir, I did think it very necessary, when I did sign it. We were in great distress till the Duke of Marlborough opened a new prospect of glory, of victory, and of salvation, upon the Danube. But such is our unfortunate situation, that the Emperor has not yet got one man into Lombardy for our assistance; nor have the French drawn one man out of Italy yet. The Duke of Vendôme presses

Ivrea pretty close, and has ventured to pass the Doire, in order to take the garrison, as well as to take the place. He does not presume upon his own strength, so much as he does upon our weakness. We are assured, that the Emperor has given orders enough to Count Linange to march, and that bills have been sent to him for 100,000 florins. Whether those bills are paid, or whether that sum is sufficient, I cannot tell; but sure I am we have yet no news, that the Count is stirred out of his quarters, though the Grand Prior has not above 5000 men with him in a condition to fight. We did believe here, as I see you did at London, that Prince Eugene would venture with a sufficient force into Italy; but we think Philipsburg is a great deal out of his way. If the Emperor does lose this opportunity of sending some forces into Lombardy, whilst the enemies are so weak by sickness, and desertion, and so dispirited by our late victories, I fear it will be such a loss as will be irreparable. If the Duke of Marlborough had marched about the end of the last month through Bavaria into Lombardy with 25,000 of his men, he might have kept his Christmas at Milan. We have no news of the Queen's fleet, which we can depend upon. His Royal Highness is still at Crescentin, from whence he watches the Duke of Vendôme, and Albergotti, and the Duke de la Feuilliade, as well as he can, and is forced to send frequent detachments to hinder them from coming into the plains of Piedmont. By the last letters from Languedoc, it seems as if the Maréchal de Villars was in haste to make an end of the war there. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the $\frac{8}{19}$th September, 1704.

My Lord,

I am more troublesome to your Lordship than I ought to be, because I am afraid the ways of our posts will be soon shut up. I must, therefore, make haste to thank your Lordship for the letter with which you did honour me the 15th August.

I find that the Marquis de Miremont has wrote to his Royal Highness to assure him, that he is coming to his succour with 6000 men. His Royal Highness is very glad of so good a new ally, upon condition that the 6000 men come, and without

any diminution of the subsidies. But neither his Royal Highness, nor any body else here, does believe this *croisade* can come hither by land. This will be a very good reason for sending them by sea to Villa-Franca. Perhaps they may be landed on the coasts of Spain, or of France, to good purpose, and be of some use aboard the fleet. I do not condemn, my Lord, your great and good design, and I hope you will keep it in your thoughts till next spring; but I beg of you to let the Queen have all the honour of it, and to put all the tools which are necessary for the execution of it aboard the fleet. Things must be extremely altered here, before we can hope to get 500 men from hence for that purpose. If Sir G. Rooke has followed the example which my Lord Duke of Marlborough set him, as I hope he has, you may do any thing next summer. But nothing can cure the impotency of the Court of Vienna. The Imperialists have not yet sent one man into Italy for our relief, or for their own service. We have cried out loud for help; we have petitioned at Vienna, and we have threatened. We have solicited my Lord Duke, and Prince Eugene, and not neglected Prince Louis. But we are never the better. We shall go on to suffer some time longer, and live upon the merits of the battle at Hochstet. But if nothing can enable the Emperor, or determine his ministers to do what they ought, we will not lose Turin. We will not leave our wife and children as the Elector of Bavaria did. We know where to lay the fault, and can cry out first against those who break their treaties. The situation of the French affairs, at present, will make that court give us such conditions as they would not have done six weeks ago; and it will not be dishonourable to capitulate upon the breach. I have been almost tempted to do a desperate action, which was to give 50 thousand crowns to Comte de Linange to bring him into Lombardy, and to draw bills for that sum upon Mr. Fox. If things were seen at London as they really are in Italy, I should have ventured to make this bargain. Prince Miremont's army in Spitalfields will cost a great deal more, and cannot help the Camisards so much or so soon. I expect Cavallier here every day now, and though I hope that his Royal Highness will take him into his service, yet, I fear, I must make him and his brethren, and, perhaps, his troop, sensible of the Queen's generosity and protection. I am more perplexed about the Marquis de Guiscard, who was to be my

Général de Débarquement, and served us about six months in that quality. When that war was ended, I did disband him, as great Princes use to do. I gave him for his own subsistence 300 louis d'or, and advised him to retire again into Switzerland, where I had found him. I found he expected rewards, or pensions for his zeal, and good will, and perfect hatred of his country, and his readiness to serve us. I told him I would represent him fairly to the Queen's ministers, and expect her Majesty's orders. I can make no more use of him; but if your Lordship has any consideration concerning him, you will please to let me receive your commands. The Emperor has had an old fumbling Ambassador at Venice, all this war, who was of no use. I am now told that he has sent a useful sensible man thither, one Abbot Leshley, son to General Leshley, of Scotch extraction. I hope he may do some good. It is certain, my Lord, that money is scarce in France; but, I think, it is not so much for want of specie, as for want of credit, and order. The merchants at Lyons pay 4 per cent per term, which is 16 per cent per annum; but it is because the bankers choose to bury their money, or to send it out of the kingdom, rather than carry it to the mint. It is certain that the war in Bavaria, and in Italy, did carry out of France above 40 millions of livres per annum. My Lord Marlborough has stopped one of those leaks, and he did well. But if the Emperor stops the other, he will do very ill. I have eased my mind to day, and will go to the camp, and will not trouble your Lordship again, so long as I can help it. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{8}{19}$th September, 1704.

My Lord,

I have received the honour of your letter, of the 5th August. I am very glad the Queen is pleased to approve of my sending 200 pistoles to Roland; because I shall be tempted to send as much to his successor, if I can settle any correspondence with him. I have delivered the 500 fire-arms and bayonets at Nice, into his Royal Highness's magazines, and I shall have a discharge on the Queen's account for the value of them. His Royal Highness is sensible of the generosity of the Queen, and the Emperor, in permitting their pri-

soners to be paid in exchange for those of his subjects which are in the enemies' hands. But the insolence and dishonesty of the French make the execution of that exchange difficult. The French have above 7000 of his Royal Highness's soldiers in their hands; but they have employed the greatest part of them in their armies in Spain, in Flanders, in Germany, or aboard their ships. The French have this advantage over all the allies, that they employ all our deserters, and the prisoners which they make, one way or other. Nobody dares employ their rogues. This advantage is so great, that it were worth while to think of some remedy for it. Comte Maffei is returned, and has given his master a fair account of the Queen's goodness, and generosity, for the support and protection of his Royal Highness. He has also fairly represented the zeal and forwardness of my Lord Duke of Marlborough to concur in any thing for enabling the Imperialists to send some forces into Lombardy, according to their obligations from their treaties, their own interests, and from common sense. But all this does us no good. We should not, perhaps, expect the Emperor should send us any troops, which were to be employed on the Rhine, on the Danube, or in Hungary; but one loses patience to see Comte Linange with 10 or 12,000 men, who were appropriated to the service of Italy, eating up the Tyrol during the whole campaign. I send you here a copy of the orders which Mons. Belcastel has received.[1] I hope Mons. de Miremont will be more more successful in his levies. If the Marquis can bring us 6000 men, we shall value his alliance as much as we do that of the Emperor at present. It is men that we want in Italy; and his Royal Highness is extremely perplexed how to get them, especially if we lose

Sécret.

Extrait du régistre des Résolutions des Hauts et puissans Seigneurs Les Etats-Généraux des Provinces Unies des Pays-Bas.

Du Mardi, 2e Septembre, 1704.

Suivant la précédente déliberation a été trouvé bon et entendu qu' il sera écrit au Seigneur Vander Meer Envoyé Extraordinaire de leurs Hautes Puissances à la Cour du Seigneur Duc de Savoye, ensemble au Général-Major Belcastel étant en Piémont, que L.H.P. ont vu par leurs lettres le peu d'apparence qu'il y à pour la levée des trois mille hommes, que par le Général-Major Belcastel aux fins connues devoient être assemblés, et les difficultés qu'on fait là-dessus, que Sa Majesté de la grande

our communication with Switzerland. In this distress his Royal Highness would fain try to raise two or three or four battalions of Irish Catholics, and bring them to Nice by sea, if the Queen would please to give him leave to do so. I told his Royal Highness that I feared there might be some difficulties; but that if he would give orders to Comte Briançon to present a memorial to the Queen, or to speak to you about it, he would soon have such an answer as would determine his Royal Highness to pursue, or to abandon, this design. The French have been able to conceal from us the success of the engagement at sea, off of Malaga, the 23rd, 24th, and 25th, past. But their modesty, and the accounts which we get by Genoa, and Nice, give us great assurances of such a victory, as will make the Queen's reign glorious, so long as the monuments of history can last. Our people, at Ivrea, have made a brave and generous defence, above all that could be expected. If Verceil had done as well in proportion, the Duke of Vendôme would have been there still. However, we hear no firing now upon Ivrea since last night; of which we do not yet know the reason. I am told that an English Gentlemen, by the name of Lord Winton, came very privately from Italy, and passed alone through Geneva, and went to France the same day. I have sent to be informed better of him. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

Memorandum. Mr. Hill wrote from the camp to the Duke of Marlborough by a courier of his Royal Highness, the 20th, to the same purpose, as in the following letter to Sir Charles Hedges.

Bretagne étant inclinée pour envoyer de delà le Seigneur Miremont, lequel avec quelques refugiés qu'il pourra assembler en Angleterre et sur la route, s'en ira de delà, Lui Seigneur Vander Meer, et le Général-Major Belcastel ne passeront pas outre à la levée des susdits trois mille hommes, et que par provision ils la supersederont. Si ce n'est qu'avec le consentement de l'Angleterre il soit autrement entendu, áfin que l'un et l'autre ne se contrarient

Signé S. W. Vaeyen, Président,

Et plus Bas,

S'accorde avec le régistre.

T. Fagel.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{11th}{22nd}$ September, 1704.

Sir,

The last letters, which I had the honour to write to you, were of the 12th and 19th inst.; and I hope they might get over the mountains, because we do not hear that La Feuilliade is got into the Val d'Aoust. I believe Count Briançon will now have his orders to desire a levy of 2000 Irish, I mean perfect Irish, for the service of his Royal Highness. Perhaps, he will desire, that the Queen should raise them; but I did not give the least hopes of success that way, and his instructions are to ask leave of her Majesty to treat and capitulate with such officers, as shall be thought fit for such a levy, at the expense of his Royal Highness. If you do give him any encouragement, he is to try what he can do; and if any money is advanced to him in England for raising, clothing, transporting, or arming, those men, it is to be deducted out of the subsidies. I have promised nothing in this matter, but that Count Briançon should not wait long for an answer. I did make one difficulty, which is, that I feared his Royal Highness might be at the expense to raise recruits for the Irish battalions, which are in the French service. The great difficulties which his Royal Highness will have, or rather the impossibility which there will be of getting any men into Piedmont, unless by sea, when the enemies shall be masters of Ivrea, and the Val d'Aoust, make his Royal Highness venture to pursue this proposal. His Royal Highness sent to desire me to come the end of last week to the camp. It was to tell me that "Comte Maffei has opened his eyes, and shewed him "plainly what he is to expect from P. Lewis, and P. Eugene. "They have sent him word, that they can send him no detach-"ment from their army, till the campaign is ended upon the "Rhine, though my Lord Duke of Marlborough had generously "offered to replace the Imperial troops which should be sent "to Italy, with an equal number of the Queen's troops. This "message did stagger the resolutions of his Royal Highness; "at least, he seems to be staggered. He told the Imperial "minister and me, that he will venture the last extremities, "which can happen, between this and Christmas; but, that "if the Emperor does not send an army into Italy this win-"ter, he will have no more to do with those allies, who do

"abandon him so unmercifully. His Royal Highness has "wrote in these terms to P. Eugene, and to his minister at "Vienna, to represent the same to the Emperor." His Royal Highness is making one bold push at his enemies. They draw their subsistence, and the ammunition, which they use at the siege of Ivrea, from Verceil, where the garrison is weak, and the breaches unrepaired. Comte Tawn marched out of our camp in the night with 3000 men, in hopes that he might surprise the place and destroy all the magazines if he could not keep possession. His Royal Highness went out of his camp, the night of the 21st inst., in order to support this enterprise, or to secure the retreat of our men. We are every hour in expectation of the success of this design, which is of infinite consequence to us. I have been in a fever these three or four days, for the Queen's fleet in the Mediterranean. The first accounts of the battle off of Malaga were all very good. The French have now made so much noise, that they have puzzled the cause. But I will not believe it is possible for the Queen's fleet to be beaten." I am,&c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Duke of Ormond.

Turin, $\frac{11th}{22nd}$ September, 1704.

My Lord,

I was desired by his Royal Highness, the Duke of Savoy, to inform him as well as I could, whether he might have leave from the Queen to raise 2000 Irish foot in Ireland, all Irish and of the Roman religion, and what were the proper methods to be taken in the prosecution of that design? I could only answer, that if his Royal Highness sent his orders to the Count de Briançon, at London, to make the proposition to the Queen, I would recommend his cause to your Grace, of whose zeal and generosity in this, as in all other public services, I durst venture to assure his Royal Highness. I did add that if the Queen was pleased to give leave to make these levies in Ireland, I thought your Grace would help the Comte de Briançon in the choice of such officers as could comply with their engagements, and their capitulation. I could not but make one objection to this project, which is, that I feared his Royal Highness might put himself to the expense of raising such men as would recruit the Irish battalions which are

in the French service. This it seems his Royal Highness is willing to venture. I am very glad of this occasion to assure your Grace that, I am, &c.

To the Duke of Ormond.[1] HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Sir. G. Rooke.

Turin, $\frac{15}{24}$th September, 1704.

Sir,

I am going to write to you in the greatest disquiet of mind, in the most bitter anguish of my soul, that can be imagined. About ten days since, we had several accounts of a battle between the Queen's fleet and that of her enemies, which happened, they said, the 23rd past, off of Malaga. All the cry was, at first, on our side, and it was believed that you had beat the French to the Devil. The tide is now turned, and all the accounts which come ftom France, and Spain, are very black and gloomy. I do resolve hard not to believe one word of what they say. I dare not believe them. I trust in God, in you, and in the goodness of your men. However, the very apprehensions of what might happen, if it should please God to lay his hand so heavy upon us, as to give our fleet into the hands of our enemies, has hindered me from sleeping these four nights. I am already in a fever; and I cannot live, unless we have some better accounts of you. When I have tired my thoughts upon the subject of the Queen's honour, of the honour of our country; when I have run over all the consequences of such a disaster as this with regard to the common interests of Europe, and to the safety of our Islands, I come to be so much concerned for your person, and your honour, that I cannot bear the weight of those misfortunes with which our enemies do insult us. I am always forced to entrench myself behind a good disbelief of all they say; and there I resolve to abide till we hear from you.

I have wrote to you twice or thrice of late, to give you the best accounts I could of the wonderful and glorious success with which God has blessed the Duke of Marlborough this summer in Germany. He carried the Queen's arms to the Danube, where he got two entire victories; the last of which is the greatest which ever was obtained, in many respects. He has driven the French, and the Elector of Bavaria, quite out of

[1] Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

Germany. He has followed them over the Rhine, and has not done with them yet. We are actually besieging Landau, and, I believe, the Duke will carry on his conquests, before winter, to the banks of the Moselle. The Maréchal de Tallard, with about 30 officers of note, and about 13,000 soldiers, were made prisoners in the last action, which happened near Hochstet, the 13th of August, a day which will be memorable in England, so long as our posterity can read history. I hope God Almighty will not punish us so severely as to dicount with you all the blessings which he has heaped upon us this year by land. I do, therefore, earnestly entreat you to find out some way to let us know here in Italy what has happened to you, and to the Queen's fleet, which is, indeed, the care and concern of all Europe, but more immediately of every honest Englishman. I have still a more particular interest in that affair, in respect of the solicitude that I am under for you, as being the man of the world, who is with the most tender passions, &c.

To Sir G. Rooke. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{14}{25}$th September, 1704.

Sir,

I have done myself the honour to write to you, the 2nd, 9th, 12th, 19th, and 22nd inst., N. S.; and I hope my letters will have found the way to you. I have now received the honour of your letter, of the $\frac{11th}{22nd}$ August. I am very glad to observe, that the Marquis de Miremont has so much assurance of success in his good designs; and I will do all I can to serve and assist him. I did give my Lord Nottingham a perfect account of my designs for the assistance of the Cevennois, before I did engage too far in them. I did nothing but with the concurrence of the Dutch minister. I had directions from the Queen to go on; and he had the same orders from the States, and we had the approbation of his Royal Highness, and great assistance from him. The person we employed as our Général de Débarquement was a brother of the Comte de Guiscard, whom I found in Switzerland, whither he was fled, for having endeavoured to raise the province of Rovergue, and for having endeavoured to engage the Papists to join with the Camisards. It was the grand bailiff or the governor, of

Lausanne, who brought this gentleman to me. I was well convinced who he was, and what he had attempted in France, before I put any confidence in him. Prince Eugene did trust him so far as to give him a commission from the Emperor signed by himself, and countersigned by the Prince, to be a Mareschal de Camp. His Royal Highness had so good an opinion of this matter that he gave us 450 men for the execution of it. We have nothing to reproach ourselves withal, but our ill success, which is always criminal, I know, in some countries. I have done all I can to draw the curtain, so soon as the piece was ended. I paid M. de Guiscard 300 louis d'or for his own pains and labour, and sent him back to Lausanne, where I found him, having recommended him to my Lord Treasurer for any farther reward. He thought his merits were so great, that he is angry with me for not sending him to London, for some more considerable marks of the Queen's favour. I do not enter into a farther detail of this affair, unless you do command me; because it is ended. I know not whether I was too hot or too cold; but I do assure you, Sir, I did my best. I was zealous, and hearty, and honest. I thought of assisting with arms, with men, and with money, the real Camisards which are in France. I put 900 good firelocks, with as many bayonets, and 50 halberts, and I put 16,000 crowns in French gold, which I took up on my own credit here, aboard the Queen's frigates. I went to Nice, and took great pains to victual, and fit out to sea my little fleet. When any body else has taken so much pains as I did, and is got so near to the relief of those poor people as I was, I am content to be blamed. I should have told you, that the bailiff of Lausanne, and M. D'Ervalt, who said he had been educated with Mons. de Guiscard, at Sedan, and knew him perfectly well, did give me the first assurances, that he was a younger brother to the Comte de Guiscard, that he had been an abbot in France, that he had very considerable Church preferments in Rovergue in commendam; and I never could find any reason to doubt of his sincerity; though I never did trust him but in his own affair where he was to venture his life. I am very glad the Queen is pleased to approve of my endeavours to send some money to the Cevennois, though it is almost impossible to send any to them. I have lodged a credit at Geneva for one, who had been in the Cevennes the last year, and had established a correspondence with Cavallier,

and with Roland; but he has not yet settled any commerce with those who are now at the head of those poor people. I expect Cavallier here every day, and I hope to take some measures with him. But if the French are got into Ivrea to day, as we fear they are, and push on their designs to be masters of the valley d'Aoust, we cannot then get so much as a letter from hence to Geneva but round Italy, and Germany. I hope the Marquis de Miremont will find, or will open, a way hither. The last accounts from France, concerning the battle at sea off of Malaga, are so modest and sober, that we are entirely satisfied that the Comte de Thoulouse has not obeyed the orders which he had received. We have no accounts yet from our own folks; but I have sent a Genoese tartane to Toulon to get some intelligence there. Our garrison in Ivrea, after 24 hours' silence, during which time we suppose some negotiations were on foot, are firing again with as much fury as ever. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to M. Flotard.

A Turin, ce 25e Septembre, I704.

Monsieur,

J'ay été fort étourdi de la perte de Roland et de ses amis; mais j'espère que vous trouverez moyen de renouer quelque correspondence avec les nouveaux chefs des Cevennois. C'est Ravanal, il me semble, qui en est le plus accredité présentement. Messrs Lullin et Nicolas vous donneront toujours les 100 louis d'or sur le billet que je vous ay envoyé desque vous aurez trouvé moyen de les faire toucher à nos frères. J'attens Cavallier ici tous les jours, et je vous prie de me dire en toute confidence si vous croyez que nous pouvons nous fier entièrement en luy. Mons. de Riquerole a tant fait et tant dit, pour être employé, à porter de l'argent aux Cevennois que M. l'Envoyé d'Hollande et moy n'avons pas osé nous fier à luy pour cela: sa chants qu'il avoit été avec Mons. de la Lande, après avoir été auprès de Roland. Vous aurez sçeu peut-être que Mons. le Marquis de Miremont passe en Hollande avec 800 bons Camisards, et fait comte d'avoir jusques à 6000 pour le secours de nos amis, ce que vous aurez la bonté de les faire sçavoir. Je vous remercie de votre lettre, du 23e du passé, et si vous apprenez quelque chose de

l'état de ces pauvres gens aux Cevennes, je vous prie de nous le faire sçavoir pendant que les chemins sont ouverts. J'espère que les grands succès dont le bon Dieu nous a beni cette Campagne donneront du courage à tous nos amis qui sont en France. Je suis, &c.

A M. Flotard. HILL.

Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the 1st October, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour of writing to you the last post, in answer to that which you were pleased to write to me the 22nd August, and I shall send you a copy of that letter to day, because I fear it will not find the way to Switzerland. The enemies are now masters of Ivrea, of the Cité d' Aoust, and of all the valley d'Aoust, and of all the passages which can give them a communication between Savoy and the Milanese through the Val de Sesia: they are, at the same time, in possession of all the passes which have yet been known between Piedmont and Switzerland. They have, by this means, opened a passage for their troops, for their recruits, and for their equipage of war, between France and Lombardy; and, at the same time, they hinder us from sending so much as a letter to any part of the world, except by the way of Genoa, which is also very precarious. I am not now surprised at what the Duke de Vendôme has done. I wonder that he did not do it sooner. What he has to do next is to join all his forces, and to attack us at Crescentin, or to endeavour to take Verrue, or to come and take post at Chivas, to look very near upon us at Turin, or to come and settle his army in quarters in the rich plains of Piedmont. His Royal Highness does not abandon himself, though he is abandoned. He is marched over the Po, to see if he can beat up Albergotti's quarters; but, now we have nothing left at Ivrea, his Royal Highness cannot go far from us. We are now told that the Comte de Linange is in motion towards the head of the Adige; but I do not find that he does raise our spirits here very much. He is like a Physician who comes after the Confessor.

We have no news from the Queen's fleet yet; but the letters from Spain and France say, that the English fought *comme des démons*. If the season of the year, and the con-

dition of the fleet, would suffer them to stand up again along the coasts of Spain, I believe we should see good sport there; especially if there were any troops to spare aboard. I hope the fleet will be very early out in the spring, if it can keep the seas no longer now. But I humbly beg of you now, as I did beg the last spring, that as many redcoats may be put aboard as can be got. It is always the first question in France, in Spain, and in Italy, how many soldiers are aboard the fleet. I have certain intelligence, but from such a way that I dare not tell you even in cipher, that they are in great disquiet, and under great alarms at Madrid, where the Queen's arms are as terrible, though not yet so successful, as they were in Bavaria. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

The following is from a rough draft of a letter commenced by Mr. Hill's Secretary, but with corrections and additions in the hand-writing of Mr. Hill himself. It does not appear to whom it was addressed.

Turin, 1st October, 1704, S.N.

The 27th past, in the morning, the enemies made themselves masters of the Citadel and the Borget, two small forts at Ivrea, and made the garrison prisoners of war, which was in those two places. The 29th, the garrison in the Castiglio beat a parley, and desired to capitulate; but the Duke de Vendôme would hear of no other capitulation than that they should surrender themselves prisoners of war, to which hard fate they were forced to submit, after having defended themselves a month with great vigour and courage in an ill place, which M. de Vendôme pretended to take in ten days. We are told that the Baron de Prons, who was Governor of Ivrea, and General Krickbourne, with the chief officers, are to be conducted to Milan, and that the soldiers are sent to Chatillon, which is in the Valley d'Aoust, where they are to be kept till the enemies are more at liberty to dispose of them otherwise: the Spaniards, who were in the Duke de Vendôme's army, and were ready to march to the Milanese to reinforce the Grand Prior, are now to escort the officers taken at Ivrea as far as Milan.

Yesterday the Marquis de Sirié, and other officers, who commanded in the Valley and the Cité d'Aoust, arrived at

the camp, and gave his Royal Highness an account, that M. de la Feuilliade was master of those places; he attacked the Thuile the 27th past, which was guarded by some militia, with a battalion of new-raised Swiss, who made no resistance, but laid down their arms so soon as the enemies appeared, and ran away; when the French had soon gained that post, the Marquis de Sirié, and the rest of his Royal Highness's officers, with the few troops they had, as also Cavallier with his troop, who was with the Marquis de Sirié, were forced to retire so soon as the French were passed la Tuile; so that the enemies are now entire masters of the Valley d'Aoust, and cut off all our communication with Switzerland and Germany, except by the way of Genoa and Venice, which way is also subject to accidents, by the reason our letters, which go from hence to Genoa, must pass upon the Spanish territories.

M. de la Feuilliade is now at hand to join the Duke of Vendôme. We cannot tell what they will undertake next.

Mons. du Gos, Governor of Ast, has quitted that town, and is joined with M. d'Albergotti; he has 200 left in the castle, and but one gate of the town open, to prevent his Royal Highness sending any troops to take possession of that town; however, the Baron de Martini is encamped at Monte Chiari, about five miles from Ast; his detachment consists of three battalions, and 700 horse.

I hear his Royal Highness is marched from Crescentin with a strong detachment, that he has passed the Po, and that he has taken bread with him for four or five days. We do not know his design, but guess it may be to endeavour to surprise M. d' Albergotti, and that the Baron de Martini is to march and favour his Royal Highness's design.

From Mr. Hill to the Duke of Marlborough.

Turin, the 3rd October, 1704, S. N.

My Lord,

I did not make more haste to thank your Grace for the letter, with which you were pleased to honour me, the 8th of September; because I am unwilling to interrupt you one moment, in what you are doing for us all. Besides, I did lately write so plainly to your Grace, by a courier of his Royal Highness, who went from our camp, that I have no

more to say. Indeed it is so much worse with us than it was then, because our apprehensions are turned into sufferings. The enemies are masters now of Ivrea, and of the Val d' Aoust, by which means they have cut off all our communication with Switzerland, and Germany, and the rest of the world. At the same time they secure to themselves a free passage from France to Lombardy for their recruits, and troops, and equipage of war. We are still more sensibly affected with the loss of Ivrea, because we lose 9 battalions in it, as we lost 13 at Verceil, which are, indeed, almost all the troops which his Royal Highness had at the beginning of the campaign. Mons. Vendôme does use us saucily; he would give no capitulation to our garrison of Verceil, which did beat the chamade soon enough; and he would give none to those of Ivrea who did hold out to the last extremity. I must tell your Grace the true reason why his Royal Highness was unwilling to have such a complaisance for Belcastel as would have cost him nothing to promise to us, which was, that he thought his project could come to nothing, but to hinder the levies which he was making himself in Switzerland, and he hoped by saving so fruitless an expense to the Queen and the States, that they would do something better for him another way. However, since that time Belcastel has orders [1] to supersede any farther care about that matter; which orders will certainly be obeyed, because it is now impossible to get one man into this country from Switzerland, and it was easy to see four months since that it would be so by this time. We are now expecting the success of the Marquis de Miremont's projects. He has promised his Royal Highness 6000 men, and they would be very welcome; but which way the Prince will bring his myrmidons we cannot tell. I have got the famous Cavallier to me now, with about 67 of his Camisards, good men and true. I carry him to day to his Royal Highness in hopes to place him in his service, till the Marquis de Miremont comes. We are now expecting what the Duke of Vendôme will do next. We reckon that he has about 20,000 men effective in Piedmont, now La Feuilliade is joined to him, besides 10 battalions which are left in the valleys. We think he may yet besiege Verrue, or come and attack our camp at Crescentin, or, perhaps, come and bombard us at Turin, and then take winter-quarters in the rich plains of Piedmont. We have

[1] See page 425.

about 8000 to hinder him. I signed a treaty with his Royal Highness about six weeks since for her Majesty. I delayed as long as I could, in hopes that the States would give power to their minister to sign with me. They would give no such power to him, and they have yet no treaty. I cannot imagine which way his Royal Highness will get any troops against next spring, or recruit the few he has left. In the extremity that he is under, he has sent to desire a levy of 2000 Irish, mere Irish, to be brought by sea to Nice. I told his Royal Highness what difficulties there would be in that proposal; but he has sent to make it. We know no longer what your Grace is doing on the Rhine. We suppose you have driven the Maréchal de Villeroy under the cannon of Strasburg. I hope so for many good reasons; one of them is, because a creature of Prince Louis has wrote to inform the world, that he advised your Grace and Prince Eugene to do so, and that it was to be easily done. I know not what your Grace designs to do with the Maréchal de Tallard, nor do I care. Perhaps the best thing were to sell him to his master for what he is worth; but I must observe, that if he should be sent to Holland, or to England, some of your allies will think, at least will say, that he is to negotiate something; and the French will do all they can to make it credible. We have a gallant good man [1] of our country on this side the Alps at present, who truly loves and honours your Grace as he ought. He has this particular obligation to you, that you have cured [his] spleen, and stopped his bleeding. If you beat the French once more this year, he will meet you in Holland, and go home with you. I am, &c.

To the Duke of Marlborough. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the 8th October, 1704, S. N.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you, the 25th September, and the 1st. inst., S. N. The first of these letters I endeavoured to send by the way of Switzerland, the last by the way of Genoa. They will both run the gauntlet. The French are entire masters of the Val d'Aoust, and the passages

[1] The Duke of Shrewsbury: see a series of letters of his Grace to Mr. Hill in appendix D of this volume.

to Switzerland. The Spaniards lie on the road to Genoa, and have a *corps de garde* at a village belonging to the State of Milan, which lies across our way. However, we hope to cheat them sometimes so far as to get a courier to pass, though the courier who was to come hither yesterday from Genoa was stopped and visited, and all the letters taken from him which the enemies thought worth their curiosity, amongst which all my letters are gone.

Mons. Cavallier came hither last week, just before the passages were stopped, and brought about 70 men with him, officers or soldiers, good men and true. He had an opportunity, as he came through the Val d'Aoust, to shew his zeal for the service of his Royal Highness. But, at the first sight of La Feuilliade's troops, our new-raised Swiss, and our militia, abandoned all their posts, which had been a fortifying these six months, and our Camisards came away in the crowd without hearing one musket fired. The Swiss ran up the mountains and their officers with them. M. Cavallier came the better way, and came hither. So soon as he arrived I carried him to our camp, and his Royal Highness received him very well. He gave him a commission to be Colonel in his service, and he is now to make up a battalion, so soon as he can possibly; in which I will give him all the assistance I can possibly. The Duke of Vendôme has now left such garrisons in Ivrea, and in the Val d'Aoust, as he thinks fit, and is marching towards Verceil. Every thing looks as if his intention was to come and attack us at Verrue, which is a post of great importance to them who are masters of it. The best assistance which we expect for the security of that place must be from the rains which usually fall about this time of the year. We scarce know whether the Comte de Linange is marching this way or not, being quite tired with long expectations of his coming. By all the accounts which I have been able to get from the sea-coasts, the French fleet was soundly mauled the 24th August; though they have thought fit to sing *Te Deum*, because they were not quite destroyed. Two of the Queen's frigates cruising off of Nice were becalmed between that port and Antibes, the 2nd inst., which encouraged four galleys to come out, and look upon them as near as they durst. But after two hours of mighty firing, in which we had not one man hurt, the galleys went home. I am very much afraid of being blamed for keeping these 2 frigates in these

seas all this summer; but they are so useful to his Royal Highness, and being the only English flags which have been seen on the coasts of Italy this summer, I shall have something to say for myself. We have, at present, no communication with the rest of the world but by sea; and, I believe, the Comte de Briançon will soon have orders to desire the Queen will please to let some frigates come and harbour at Villa-Franca. I shall write to you more at large, so soon as I see that our couriers can pass safe. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Turin, the 10th October, 1704, S.N.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Grace from Francfort about Christmas last, to give you the best account I could of the condition of the Vaudois, and refugees, who are planted in Wirtemberg and thereabout. I must now beg leave to say something of the original Vaudois, who are still in the valleys at the foot of the Alps. The late Queen was pleased to extend her goodness to them, in subsisting their ministers and schoolmasters in the time of their distress. They enjoyed the effects of her Majesty's charity from the year 1691 till 1698, when part of it was applied for the subsistence of those ministers who were driven out of these valleys, and obliged to seek a new settlement in Germany. From the year 1698 till this present year, the ministers and schoolmasters in these valleys have enjoyed peace and quiet, and have made shift to subsist upon their own funds, and their industry, with the help of something which they received from the charity of the late King till 1700. Now the war and all the miseries of it are come upon them again; and the enemies have dwelt amongst them all this summer; and they are now in actual war for their own preservation. I am sure they do very much want, at present, the Queen's goodness and charity, and do deserve your Grace's commiseration. I send you the enclosed memorial,[1] by which your Grace will perceive

[1] Among Mr. Hill's papers the Editor has found the Memorial from the Vaudois Pastors to Queen Anne which is printed immediately after this letter of Mr. Hill's to Archbishop Tenison. It is endorsed by Mr. Hill: *Etat des Eglises des Vallées.*

that they are now willing to share with their brethren in Germany, who are in peace, at least at a distance from the war at present. I must also confess that I cannot but have some veneration for these Mother Churches, who never did believe transubstantiation, and who are the only people on this side the Alps, who do not say their prayers before images. They have, or are allowed to have, 13 ministers, and as many schoolmasters. Some of these poor men are in the utmost extremities, and will be forced, I fear, to desert their churches if not assisted; the rest will have great difficulties to subsist this winter. I do, therefore, humbly recommend them to your Grace's care and protection. I do hope you will please to send me £250 or £300 for them; because I shall be under a necessity of advancing almost so much amongst them before Christmas. I am glad of this, or any other, occassion to shew the zeal and devotion with which I am, &c.

To the Archbishop of Canterbury. HILL.

Etat des Eglises des Vallées.

Mémoire sur la Constitution des Eglises Evangéliques (vulgairement nommés Vaudoises) dans les Vallées du Piémont.

Ces Vallées qui font encore profession du St. Evangile sont trois; celle de Lucerne, de la Perouse, et de St Martin avec deux communes annexés, qui sont Rocheplate, et Parustin, situées entre la Vallée de Lucerne, et celle de la Perouse, et qui composent une Eglise du mesme nom.

La Vallée de Lucerne a encore les Eglises d'Angrogne du St. Jean, la Tour, Roras, Villar and Boby. Cette Vallée dans l'année 1655 a soufert une grande diminution par la privation de la possession, et habitation des terres, et lieux de Lucerne, Lucernette, Bubiane, Feril, Campillion, et autres lieux, dont ceux de la Religion ont estés exclus, et chassés, en l'année 1663; et en 1664 on ôta à la commune de St. Jean toute sorte d'exercice publiq de la Religion, l'habitation du Pasteur, et du Maistre d'Ecole, et cette Eglise a esté contrainte de bâtir son Temple, la maison du Pasteur, et du Maistre d' Ecole sur les terres de la commune d'Angrogne, et dans la mesme année on a privé St. Jean du quartier dit des Vignes, qui faisoit partie de la mesme Eglise du St. Jean.

En la mesme année 1664 on exila, sur divers prétextes,

plusieurs bons particuliers du dit St. Jean, dont on confisqua les terres pour, par ce moyen, nous recoigner, et resserrer d' avantage. Encore dans la mesme année, après avoir entièrement désolés plusieurs communautéz, on condamna les Vallées à une finance de soixante mille livres, outre les ordinaires et extraordinaires impôts: et de plus on leur défendit de tenir aucun Synode, sans la permission de S.A. Royalle, et intervention d'un sien Commissaire, pour l'ordinaire l'intendant de la Province, et qui par les grosses journées cause de grands fraix aux Eglises qui sont contraintes de le défrayer luy, et les siens, et de payer ses vacations telles qu'il luy plait.

La Vallée de la Perouse est divisée en deux par la rivière du Cluson qui passe par le milieu en sa longueur, une partie a tousjours restée aux Ducs de Savoye, sçavoir, celle qui fait face vers le levant, et l'autre considérable fut remise à la France avec la ville de Pignerol en l'année 1630. Cette partie icy avoit trois belles Eglises, sçavoir, Pinache, Villar, de St. Germain, et la Chapelle, ou Perouse; et elles ont tousjours esté unies, pour le spirituel, à celles des autres Vallées jusques en 1685.

L'autre, et qui est la moindre partie de cette Vallée, a Pramol Eglise située au haut de la Montagne, St. Germain Eglise annexe de celle du Villar, et le Pomare Eglise annexe de celle de la Perouse, ou Chapelle, et cette Eglise icy n'a pas encore pû bâtir de temple, non plus que celle de St. Germain, qui de mesme que la Communauté de Pramol ont esté entièrement réduites en cendres par les François dans la présente guerre de 1702.

Les Communes qui ont tousjours esté sous la domination des Ducs de Savoye, sçavoir, Pramol et St. Germain, envers de Pinache, envers des Portes, Pomare, et plusieurs particuliers d'autres communes avoient le meilleur de leurs terres dans ces autres communes qui etoient à la France, et c'est de ces terres et possessions dont on est, et demeure privé depuis l'année 1686, quoy que ce pays soit présentement à S.A. Royalle.

Dans cette ditte année 1686 Son Altesse Royalle fit publier un Edit qui défendoit toute sorte d'exercice de nostre Ste Religion à ceux de trois Vallées, et enjoignoit aux Pasteurs de sortir dans le temps de quinze jours, sous peine de mort, et après quelques menées, les Vallées ayant esté attaquées par les troupes de France, et par celles du Duc de Savoye, bon nombre de nos gens a péri par le fer, et le reste ayant

esté mené en captivité a aussi péri, la plus grande partie par les misères des prisons, et quantité de petits enfans ont esté enlevés aux Pères et aux Mères ; de sorte que de $\frac{18}{m.}$ ames que nous estions dans le temps de nos malheurs, il ne s'en est trouvé qu' environ $\frac{4}{m.}$ au temps du dernier rétablissement ; et durant la captivité la France confisqua les *terres qui nous apartenoient dans la Vallée de la Perouse*, et elles demeurent encore confisquées. En l'année 1685 la France, voulant achever de détruire ce qui restoit d'Eglises en ses domaines, contraignit ces trois de la Vallée de la Perouse à ployer le genoux ; et n'y en ayant eu que très peu qui ayent trouvé la porte pour sortir, ces pauvres gens ont estés gênés dans leur conscience jusqu' à l' année 1693, que l' armée des alliés estant venû bombarder la ville de Pignerol, et ayant monté jusqu' à la Perouse, ce pauvre peuple qui avoit gémi et soupiré jusqu' alors profitant de l'occasion, et sous l'agrément de S.A.R., se réfugia dans les Eglises des autres Vallées, après avoir esté pillés et bruslés. La France ayant repoussée les alliés se remit en possession de la Vallée de la Perouse, et elle fit sommer ces gens d'y retourner sous promesse de grands avantages ; mais comme ils ne pouvoient accepter ces offres qu'au dépens de leur conscience, et les ayant rejettés, la France alors confisqua leurs biens dont ils sont privés : quoy que ces pauvres gens ayent presque tousjours portés, et qu'ils portent actuellement les armes pour Son Altesse Royalle ; et comme cette Vallée est frontière, il est de l'intérest du Duc de Savoye qu'elle soit réhabitée, et repeuplée par ses anciens, bons, et fidels sujets, au lieu qu' à présent elle est habitée par la lie, et par l'écume, de divers peuples qui ont porté long-temps, et dont plusieurs portent encore, les armes contre S.A.R.

En l'année 1694 S.A.R., par un Edit rétablit les Vallées dans tous leurs biens, charges, priviléges, et honneurs, mais en plusieurs choses (nomine tenus et verbis) à cause des ministres de sa ditte Altesse Royalle et du clergé ; et dans le mesme Edit il fust permis aux Réfugiés de la Vallée de la Perouse de pouvoir rester dix ans dans les Vallées après la paix ; de mesme qu'aux autres Réfugiés qui étoient alors dans ces pays, et qui avoient porté les armes pour Son Altesse Royalle, de s'établir, en prêtent le serment de fidelité ; cependant pour affoiblir les Vallées peux d' années après, sçavoir l'an 1698, et immédiatement après avoir presté le serment de fidelité, S.A.R. donna un ordre qui ordonnoit

à ces pauvres gens de sortir des ses Etats, ce qui fust exécuté ; et ces nouveaux exilés par les soins charitables et pieux des Puissances de nostre Religion furent établis dans le Wirtemberg, et ailleurs, et les patrimoines, et héritages, de ceux de la Vallée de la Perouse ont estés donnés en payement à Mons. le Comte de Piecon à compte d'une somme qui luy estoit dûe de S.A.R., et ce Comte en a fait plusieurs belles métairies.

La Vallée de St. Martin est composé de plusieurs petites communes, et elle a trois Eglises ; sçavoir, Villeseche, qui a pour annexes Rivelaret, Taet, et autres, Prals dont l'annexe est Rodoret, et Macel, qui a la Marceille pour annexe ; dans cette Vallée il y avoit sept Temples, dont quatre estoient petits vils demeurants presque tout démolis. L'on est obligé de s'assembler dans des chétives huttes, et les peuples estant très misérables sont hors d'état de relever ces Temples, et de pourvoir à l'entretien de leurs Pasteurs. A présent nous avons cinq petites Eglises sans ministre, n'ayant pas le moyen d'en avoir, et les autres en attendant les servent, et les visitent par tout.

Nous avons aussi la Vallée de Pragelas, ou de Cluson, qui a esté conquise par S.A. Royalle ; elle estoit autrefois toute de la religion, et estoit unie au Synode du Dauphiné ; il y avoit six belles, grandes, et nombreuses Eglises, sçavoir, le Mean, la plus petite annexe de la Chapelle le Roure, ou Villaret, Mantoulle, Fenestrelles, le Seaux, et l'Eglise nommé de Pragelas. Cette Vallée estoit la plus forte, soit par le nombre des habitants, soit pour sa situation, et elle est au septentrion de la Vallée de St. Martin, des habitants il y en a qui sont établis dans les pays Etrangers ; d'autres portent les armes dans les Vallées pour S.A.R., et il y en a encore un bon nombre qui gémissent, et qui soupirent après un rétablissement de la liberté de conscience, à défaut de quoi ils souhaitent de se retirer pendant que la porte leur est ouverte. Cependant ce rétablissement renforceroit extrêmement les Vallées, on auroit une forte barrière entre la France et le Piémont, et l'intérest de S.A.R. y est fort engagé. Dans la grande, et effroiable désolation des Vallées par les troupes de France et de Savoye en 1686. On enleva quantité de petits enfans qu'on a elevé dans la Religion Romaine, et comme ces enfans repêtent les héritages de leurs Pères, et s'établissement parmi nous, cella cause un grand mélange dans les Vallées : qui ne manquera pas d'y

attirer de nouveaux malheurs, comme ces gens la ménacent, et le disent hautement.

On peut donc remarquer que comme les histoires des Eglises des Vallées en font foy, nous avions autrefois l'exercise de la Religion, mesme à Turin, à Quiers, à Raconis, à Droners, à Paysane, à Pravilellm, et en divers autres endroits tant du Marquisat de Salluces qu'autres Provinces du Piémont, où il y avoit des Personnes et familles de la première qualité de nostre mesme Religion ; que l'ennemi a insensiblement gagné tout ce terrain, de mesme que divers endroits des Vallées, et dernièrement celle de la Perouse, et devant le Pragelas, de sorte que le corps ayant esté inutile, et de ce corps ne restant pour ainsy dire, qu'une main, et de cette main trois doigts, sçavoir, la Vall Luserne, un peu de la Vall la Perouse, et la Vallée de St. Martin, il n'est pas possible, humainement parlant, que ces Eglises puissent subsister long-temps à moins que les Puissances Protestantes, et sur tout Sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Brettagne, ne nous tendent la main, de mesme que les Seigneurs qui sont dans ces lieux et autres bonnes ames que le zéle de la Maison de Dieu ronge. Il est dis-je à craindre qu'enfin les Successeurs de S.A. Royalle ne connoissant plus Joseph, et que cette petite lumière de ces anciennes Eglises ne soient enfin offusquées par les épaissies ténébres qui l'environnent, et éteinte par tous les orages que l'on prévoit.

Nous n'avons dans l'Etat présent des Vallées que treize Eglises qui n'ont pour l'entretien de leurs Pasteurs que cinq pensions d'Angleterre, de cent écus l'une ; et comme les peuples ne peuvent rien fournir, ou très peux, les Pasteurs sont malheureux, et comme autant d'Esclaves, dépendants de la mercy des peuples ; parce que pour la pluspart des Ministres ne sont pas entretenus ; et parce que les Pasteurs sont dans cette dépendance des peuples pour leur petit entretien, il naît divers inconvenients, et sur tout un certain relâchement de la discipline Ecclésiastique ; au lieu que si on avoit les gages d'ailleurs les peuples seroient assujettis et soumis aux Pasteurs, qui mettroient les Eglises sur un bon pied à tous égards, de sorte qu'au lieu que les ministres dépendent des peuples ceux cy dépendroient de leurs Pasteurs

La feue Reine d'Angleterre de pieuse, glorieuse, et triomphante mémoire, peu après le rétablissement des Vallées, avoit eu la charité de faire assigner douze cents écus pour l'entretien

annuel des Pasteurs, et six cents cinquante écus pour les Maistres d'Ecoles, et cepandant nous n'avons depuis l'an. 1698 à présent que sept cents cinquante écus d'Angleterre, tant pour les Ministres que pour les Maistres d'Ecole, qui sont répartis entre tous, et outre cella on fait aussi la paye, ou le gage du Régent de l'Ecole Latine, et une treizieme pension pour ce treizieme Pasteur. Il est donc du tout important pour la conservation de la Verité dans les Vallées,

1er Que la Vallée de la Perouse soit rétablie;

2d Qu'on procure aussi le rétablissement de celle de Pragelas, et qu'au cas que cette Vallée demeure à S. A. Royalle à la paix, comme il y a de l'apparence, il y ait une liberté entière de conscience, et qu'on soit remis, comme on estoit avant la revocation de l'Edit de Nantes,

3e Que l'exercice de la Religion se fasse au lieu le plus commode de chaque communauté et Eglise, et qu'ainsy il soit permis à celle de St. Jean, de bâtir un temple, et la Maison du Pasteur là, où elle trouvera bon; Qu'il en soit de mesme de celle de la Tour, de celle de Prarustin, et qu'ils puissent bâtir et eslever leurs bâtiments comme ils voudroient, ce qui leur est presentement défendu;

4e Que dans les Académies Protestantes, et sur tout en Angleterre, Hollande, et autres, on puisse avoir quelque place ou pension pour ceux des Valleés, qu'on consacré au St Ministère, et qu'il y ait quelque bien pour les aider pendant qu'ils font leurs humanités aux Vallées, sans quoi il n'est pas possible qu'elles soient pourveues, d'autant, et d'aussi bons Ministres qu'il leur faut;

5e Que les femmes et familles des Pasteurs ayent quelque petit entretien, pour les empescher de tomber dans la misère après la mort du Ministre, comme cella arrive presque tousjours, soit parce que les biens sont très peu de choses dans ces lieux qui sont d'une très pénible culture; soit d'autant que les pensions des Pasteurs sont si peu de choses qu'on ne peut rien réserver, c'est ce qui fait que presque personne ne voûe aucun au St Ministère, parce que c'est le voûer à la misère, et que en conséquence ces Eglises sont presque tousjours sans le nombre des Ministres qu'il leur faut;

6e Que toute ambiguité et restriction, qui se trouve dans l'interination du dernier Edict, soit oté, sur tout pour ce qui regarde la permission d'acquerir dans l'étendue et limites des Vallées, des biens, fons, en quelques mains qu'ils soient;

7e Que selon nos anciens priviléges on ne fasse aucune difficulté soit par des chicanes, ou autrement de recevoir des Notaires, et Procureurs de nostre Religion;

8e Que le Commissaire qu'il plait à S. Altesse Royalle d'envoier pour assister aux Synodes ne soit pas à charge aux Vallées, ce qui il fait, sans scrupule, à de grands dépens; mais qu'il soit défroyé d'ailleurs, comme cella se pratiquoit en France aux dépens du Roy;

9e Que les sujets de S. A. RIIe des Vallées soient traitées également, au lieu que les Catholiques Romains ne payent aucune tailles. Ces exemptions de tailles font (selon le but du Clergé) que de nos personnes et familles à cause de leur pauvreté, estants attirés par là, et par d'autres promesses, font enfin le faux pas, ce qui va directement à la ruine de nostre Religion dans ces lieux;

10e Que s'il est possible les Pasteurs au Nombre de Treize, les Maistres d'école, et le Régent de l'école latine ayent leurs entières pensions des Puissances, et ames charitables;

11e Qu'on puissé avoir dans les Vallées autant de livres de dévotion qu'il seroit à souhaiter, au lieu qu'on n'en a qu' avec peine, et dont les gens pour la pluspart sont privés, soit à cause de leur pauvreté, soit parce qu'on n'en peut pas avoir, ce qui est cause de l'ignorance.

Le résidu des pauvres Eglises des Vallées, en la personne de leurs Pasteurs, supplient très humblement Sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Brettagne de daigner jetter les yeux sur ce Mémoire, pour y faire les reflexions que ses grandes lumières et sagesse luy fourniront au bien, repos, et consolation de ces Anciennes Eglises.

From Mr. Hill to Capt. Dolman, &c.

Turin, $\frac{\text{1st}}{\text{12th}}$ October, 1704.

Whereas the Queen's consul, and several merchants at Leghorn, and several masters of ships, now lying there, have represented that many merchant-ships have lain there several months in expectation of a convoy to carry them to England, and whereas the season of the year is now so far advanced, that, I believe, no convoy will be sent to them: this is, therefore, to desire you, so soon as you have seen the salt-ships safe into Villa-Franca, to make the best of your way with the

Lyme and Mary-Galley to Leghorn, and to carry with you from thence all the merchant-ships which are ready to sail with you for England. But if you meet in your way, off Gibraltar, or off Lisbon, any of the Queen's Admirals you will take farther orders from them for the security of the trade, and for doing what is best for the Queen's service. I am, &c.

To Capt. Dolman, &c. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{4}{15}$th October, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you, the 25th September, the 1st, and 8th, instant; and I have received that which you were pleased to write to me, the 22nd August. I know not how to write to you now, but by the way of Genoa and Venice, and must desire that the letters, which you shall desire to come hither, may be sent under cover to Sir L. Blackwell, at Florence. I did give you an account that the Duke of Vendôme was master of Ivrea, and of the Val d'Aoust; and so soon as he had got possession of Bard, which held out only twice 24 hours, he marched with all his forces towards Verceil, from whence he sent nine regiments of horse to reinforce the Grand Prior, and is now passing the Po to besiege Verrue. Mons. Albergotti has drawn together all the troops which were under his command in the Montferrat, and is now actually within cannon-shot of our retrenchments before Verrue, upon which he has already begun to fire. His Royal Highness is still encamped at Crescentin, from whence he has a communication over the Po with the garrison of Verrue, and, I believe, we shall venture our last stake upon the defence of this place. We have been in great expectation of the diversion which the Comte de Linange was to make by his motions towards the Milanese; but we do not yet find that the enemies have any great attention towards him, and therefore we have as little. I hope we shall settle a more certain way, than we have at present, for passage of our letters to Genoa; and then I will write to you more distinctly. I have no more to venture at present, but the assurances of the perfect respect with which I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Sir G. Rooke.

Turin, the $\frac{7}{18}$th October, 1704.

Sir,

I received here three days since, from Leghorn, the letter, which you did me the honour to write to me the 30th July, from Gibraltar.[1] I had received long since from London an account of your good success at that place, and I have thanked God very heartily for it many a time. A design so wisely laid, and so bravely executed, does more honour to you, and to your country, and to the Queen's arms, than all the vain impracticable projects of our Coffee-houses, and of those who take their instructions from thence. I thank you for the copy of the Ambassador's letter, and for your answer to it,[2] which is certainly just, and right, and fit to be seen in our

[1] This letter the Editor has found greatly damaged; what he could recover of it, he here inserts:

Royal Katherine, Gibraltar, 30th [July,] 1704.

It was with great satisfaction and pleasure that I received your letter by the Ch. . . Galley and Garland, and I do assure you it was with as much regret and trouble that I was deprived of the happiness of seeing you, when I was so near it, and you may guess at the reason we have not returned into your seas, by the copy of my Lord Ambassador's wise letter, and my impertinent answer to it.

I have been in a great deal of trouble about the conclusion of this campaign: it was proposed the burning and plundering of some poor fishing towns, which I thought would more expose the honour of the fleet, than be of any service to the allies; so that I was of opinion. . . . . something, that . . . . . success whatever it. . . . . itched on this place . . . . . you will see by the enclosed account we have succeeded . . . . . miracle.

Our line-of-battle consisted of 63 ships, and but 10 of them of 50 guns; and we are yet, praised be God, very healthy; so that it would be happy, if we could meet with Monsieur going out of the Straits.

You will be able to satisfy his Royal Highness of my inclination to his service by my answer to my Lord Ambassador Methuen's letter.

I shall be ready in the spring to attend you at your proposed retreat; and am in the interim, and ever,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful humble servant,

To Mr. Hill. G. Rooke.

P.S. I hear nothing yet of the Lyme and Mary-Galley.

[2] These two letters, though a little out of place, follow this letter of Mr. Hill's.

histories. But as we are just now constituted, I wish you had left the council-of-war and M. Callemberg to make an answer to his excellency. I received yesterday from Genoa a copy of a letter which you wrote to Consul Cole, the 21st August, S. V., which was the first authentic account which we had got of what you did the $\frac{13}{24}$th of that month, which was, I believe, the roughest action which ever happened on the Mediterranean. The world has talked of nothing else almost these 7 weeks past, and though all the accounts, which we have got on this side the mountains, are come from France and Spain; though the French sung *Te Deum*, and fired their guns all the world over, the thinking part of mankind have concluded, that the French were well beaten by you. I send you here a copy of the relation which the Count de Thoulouse sent to Versailles, and it is the *Credo* which the French would have the world to believe with relation to that memorable action.[1] I suppose that day put a fair end to your campaign, and I have been following you with my best prayers to Gibraltar, and to Lisbon. I was indeed in great pain for your person, till I saw your letter to Mr. Cole; and I was not without some disquiet for your honour and glory, after so good, and so successful a campaign. We find in the histories of Greece, and of Rome, that their best men, their greatest heroes, those who did love, and did serve, their country best, had more difficulty to conquer the envy, the malice, the ignorance, and fury, of their own citizens than the force and valour of their enemies. If you do like the Catos and the Scipios, you must be content sometimes to fare as they did, and to bear with an Ambassador or so. The French and the Spaniards have given out that they would retake Gibraltar before winter. I hope you will have taken some care of your own child, and have entailed that place upon the crown of England. It is worth as much as Scotland. I have some accounts from Toulon which say, that they are working there very hard upon four ships of 3 decks, of which two are entirely new, and two rebuilt, which will be ready to sail in five weeks. I hope we shall work as hard in England and Holland, to be at sea before them in the spring. I know not

[1] The document referred to by Mr. Hill, and of which he sent a copy to Admiral Sir G. Rooke, the Editor has now before him, but believing the account given by Count de Thoulouse to have been already printed, he does not insert it.

what officers you lost off of Malaga; but it is certain that the Count de Thoulouse lost a great many, and was thrice wounded himself. I must now give you, Sir, some account of our affairs in this part of the world. At the beginning of the year we did expect to be besieged at Nice, and every thing was ready at Toulon and at Marseilles for that execution. The news of your coming up into these seas did contribute to our deliverance there. I then resolved to carry the war into France, and hoped to land 500 Camisards on the coasts of Languedoc, under the convoy of the Lyme and Mary-Galley; but that expedition came to nothing. The Duke of Vendôme, with a great superiority of forces, has lain very heavy upon us all summer. He took Verceil first, the best place we had on the frontiers of the Milanese. He then took Ivrea, and all the Val d'Aoust, by which he has cut off our communication with Switzerland, and all that part of the world. He is now besieging Verrue, which is within 15 miles of this town; and if he makes haste, there is not an end of our sorrow. The Emperor, who was to help us with troops, has abandoned us very shamefully, and his Royal Highness is like to pay dear for his friendship. I made my treaty for the Queen, and we have paid our subsidies very honestly. I should have asked leave to go home before winter, if there were not too much danger in staying here. I know not what to say to you for keeping the Lyme and Mary-Galley all summer; but if I do not lose them at last, I have a good deal to say. So soon as I had done with them for my designs on the coasts of Languedoc, the Count de Thoulouse was got between you and them, and filled these seas. I sent them, therefore, a cruising as high as Naples, in hopes they would do us good, or harm to the enemies. I employed them to convoy salt, and all other provisions into Villa-Franca, where they have been of very great use and service to his Royal Highness. I am now sending them to Leghorn, to carry from thence some merchantmen, who have lain there about 8 months in expectation of convoy; and I direct them to put themselves under your command wherever they can find you on this side Portsmouth. I have done myself the honour to write to you three or four times this summer, and I sent a tartane from Genoa to enquire after you, so soon as we had the first news of your battle, which was sent us by the French. I believe none of my letters would come right; but this,

which I send by the Lyme, will find you I hope. I did give you the earliest account I could of my Lord Marlborough's glorious and monstrous victory upon the Danube, which has infinitely mended all the affairs of the Allies. If the Spaniards would, and if the Imperialists could, do any thing for themselves, we should have a good game the next summer. But the ill will and obstinacy of the first, and the negligence or impotency of the latter, will leave all the burden upon the Duke of Marlborough, and upon you, and upon my Lord Treasurer. I am longing to know where you do resolve to take up your winter-quarters, and wish you might find it fit to stay at Lisbon. If you are to go farther, we shall be frightened here, before you can come again into these seas. We have expected more from the Portuguese this summer than they have yet performed. I wish they may, at least, spare a garrison and provisions for Gibraltar. I hope, Sir, you will not be ready for your retreat this next spring. I reckon that you are under an engagement to meet the Count de Thoulouse again. I should have been ready to meet you any where, if I could leave my post here without the imputation of desertion. I am, &c.

To Sir G. Rooke, &c. HILL.

Ambassador Methuen to Sir G. Rooke.

Lisbon, July the 1st, 1704.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 18th June, O.S. together with the resolution of the council-of-war. I shall take care of sending to England all your despatches, and of sending to Lagos those letters which shall come from England for you. I hope my letter of the first instant came safe to your hands, as likewise those packets Capt. F— carried from hence.

Upon Sir Cloudesley Shovel's arrival here, and the hopes he might join you, I received in form the resolution of both the King of Portugal and Spain, upon a joint meeting of both their councils of State, that you should attempt Cadiz, or some other place of Andalusia. But especially Cadiz, upon the certainty that there is no force there, nor in the neighbourhood of it.

The French Gentleman, who brought me your letter of the 25th, went away to Santarem presently. By him I laid the

matter again before the Kings, and I hope for a speedy answer. Howsoever, I would not detain this express, but will immediately despatch another to Lagos, where I hope you will always have a frigate, since in this nice conjunction, it is of great importance that I may be able to send to you.

I have communicated to the ministers here your intention of sending a squadron of ships from Lagos, to take care of the Brazil fleets, and I shall despatch an express to the Commander with full instructions, and letters to the Governors, &c.

I think nothing can be better resolved than to be with your fleet within the Straits, to hinder any possibility of the French fleet coming to Cadiz, which, as you very well observe, would entirely cut us off. For my own part, I must own, that the conduct of the King of France makes me assuredly believe he neither hath nor will order his Commanders to fight with you at sea, but upon a manifest and great advantage. And if the Count de Thoulouse would not fight you alone, in the condition and place he was in, much less will the whole French fleet now in the Mediterranean resolve to fight with you, now joined with Sir Cloudesley, which they know, and his strength certainly.

When, Sir, I represented to you the taking Cadiz, it is principally founded on the strength of your fleet, the number of marines you have on board, and the perfect assurance we have, that there is no force in Cadiz, and that there being no force in garrison the Inhabitants in all respects, as well to save themselves, as for affection to the King of Spain, Charles the third, will enforce a surrender. It is likewise true, that I absolutely depend on land-soldiers from hence, to the number of at least 2000, besides some English and Dutch soldiers, and several officers, and engineers.

But it must be confessed, that a great part of the reasons that move me depends on the conjuncture, and upon your immediate resolution, and as immediate execution on your part. For if the Duke of Anjou hath notice, no doubt he will send away the Marquis de Villa D'Arias with his horse immediately, who will garrison the place; but if you will attempt the place presently with your fleet, and begin to do what you can with your bombs, and land your marines on the Island, and possess the neck of land and the bridge of Suaco, you will prevent him, and infallibly, I say infallibly, be master of the place; if you can be master of that neck of land, for then you may be assured of having 2000 men

from hence, 1000 of which are old foot, and now are near Faro, and can be with you in three or four days; you having your great victualling ships which can easily bring them so short a transport. In confidence of this I will prepare all things for your having the men, and for sending what I can from hence in the ships here under convoy of the two frigates who will be ready next week.

I do consider the best I can; first, your marines although landed on the Island cannot suffer any thing, since you are there with your fleet to support them. And I think there is as little possibility of the fleet suffering for want of the marines on board, in the place and circumstances you are, in respect of the French fleet.

It may be the greatness of the enterprise, and the advantage to England in particular, as well as Europe, may make me too warm. But it is certain that I would be of this opinion when I were sure to lose my life, if I did not succeed: and I hope your own glory, and the glory of the English nation, will be of more force than any arguments. And I cannot but remember great actions done when there have been nothing but seamen landed. But what seems a foundation for your attempt is the great diversion your very attempt will be, although you should be hindered by difficulties in the prosecution of it.

In two days I shall not fail to despatch another express, with the positive resolution of the Kings upon your letter.

The agent of the victuallers received your first order; but coming to me, I advised him to expect a second order, after you should have received what he sent with Sir Cloudesley, the rather for that no convoy was here ready to sail. I am with very great respect,

Sir,

Your most humble and most obedient servant.

[*To Sir G. Rooke.*] Jo. METHUEN.

A Copy.

Sir G. Rooke to Ambassador Methuen.

Royal Katharine, 3rd July, 1704.
20 Lgs. Wt. from the Straits' mouth.

My Lord Ambassador,

I have your Excellency's letter, of the 1st July, N. S.,

and have communicated it to a council of Flag-officers, as you will see by the enclosed copy of the resolution thereupon; but I am sorry to tell you, your project of attempting Cadiz seems so very unreasonable and preposterous, that it would not bear a serious debate; nor can I persuade the Gentlemen who perused it that you are in earnest; but if you are, and will, as you say, justify your opinion, with the hazard and loss of your life, and your Excellency please to take your passage on the Swallow, or the Panther, possibly the Flag-officers may consent to land the marines to support your Excellency in an attempt so very particular and extraordinary; but you must not think we shall ever agree to the landing the seamen of the fleet, and rendering it defenceless to the insult of our enemies; for I take it to be a maxim in war, that there is no dependance on security. It may be necessary for me to acquaint your Excellency, that I have had a Flag-officer at Cadiz, to demand an exchange of prisoners, and the officer he sent ashore was received by a guard of three or four several clothings, by which it may be concluded there are, at least, detachments of so many regiments; besides, the boatman he took informed him, that 8 or 9000 of the townsmen have taken arms, and will defend their properties; and I have known, in my time, as brave a defence made by burghers as ever was by regular troops.

Things had a much better prospect at Barcelona, and yet your Excellency has been informed how we succeeded there; so that where services are attended with the greatest probability of success, they are not always infallible: I say not always infallible, for infallibility, in our Church doctrines, is inconsistent with humanity.

I am as warm for the service and honour of my country as any man in Christendom; but though my zeal for it should carry me away to a degree of madness, her Majesty has been pleased to join with me officers of known courage, wisdom, and experience, who would moderate my passion, and restrain me in the execution of unreasonable and impracticable enterprises.

I am obliged to your Excellency for your concern for my glory; but I am of opinion that neither that, nor the honour of my country, is to be improved by attempting impossibilities, which would read in histories more like the effects of madness than of reason and experience.

I do agree that great things have been done by English seamen, but no history affords any instance that they have been employed, or succeeded, in the reducing a regular fortification, especially one so formidable as Cadiz is; but employ them in their proper sphere and province, and I don't doubt, but they are as capable of doing as great things as ever; which puts me upon reflecting how great a misfortune we think it here, that the fleet should be restrained from going up the Straits, where we should either oblige the enemy to a battle, or confine them to their port, and prevent them from attempting any thing in prejudice of the Duke of Savoy, or any other of her Majesty's allies on the coasts of Spain, and Italy, and let the Government of that country see, that though the whole naval force of France is united in the Mediterranean, yet the Confederate fleet can be masters of those, as well as our own, seas; these are services proper for a fleet, and would exert the Queen's and our country's glory, and be of great use and advantage to the service and interest of our allies. This is what, I hope, your Excellency represents to the Kings of Spain and Portugal, and not encourage them to expect great matters from vain, and impracticable projects.

We say in the result of the council-of-war that we cannot come to any determination, till we know the proposition of the Kings of Spain and Portugal; but that is upon a supposition that their Majesties will call some General-officers to their assistance, who have been at Cadiz, and can tell them how impracticable it is to make any attempt on that place without an army.

If the Gentleman, whom you say is employed by the Kings of Spain and Portugal to go to Barbary, and treat about their being supplied with horses from thence, comes in any of the frigates now at Lisbon, I shall take the best care I can to send him to Sallee. Though we think our fleet is too much weakened already by the detachment to the Terceras, it consisting but of sixty ships of the line, when these from Lisbon join us, which being all I have to add to my most humble service, I do remain,

My Lord Ambassador,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

[*To the Lord Ambas. Methuen.*] G. Rooke.

We have been all this while kept out of the Straits by a strong Levant.

From Mr. Hill to M. Cavallier.

à Turin, ce 12e Octobre, 1704.

Monsieur,

J'ay reçeu la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 10e, et vous feray réponse par la même main qui me l'a porté. Je loue votre zèle et votre attachement aux intérêts de notre religion, et de nos amis, et je prie Dieu de bénir vos soins et vos attentions. J'approuve fort le dessein que vous avez d'envoyer un homme seur en Languedoc, comptant que vous luy donnerez de bonnes instructions. Il pourroit asseurer nos amis aux Cevennes que l'on ne les abandonnera jamais, que fera de grands efforts pour venir à eux au printemps, que le Marquis de Mirmond assemble des troupes en Angleterre et en Hollande pour cela. On dira à leur chefs, que l'on a déjà donné ordre à plusieurs pour leur faire toucher de l'argent, et s'ils veulent me faire sçavoir les noms de gens à Nismes, à Anduze, ou en toute autre ville à qui on pourroit seurement donner de l'argent pour eux, je leur en feray toucher. Votre homme à son retour nous portera de leurs nouvelles. J'ay donné 10 louis d'or à Mons. de la Feuterie pour les fraix de voyage de votre homme.

Je parleray à S.A.R. pour avoir un ordre, si elle le juge à propos, à fin que les refugiés qui sont aux vallées se peuvent enroler dans votre régiment. Je mettray ordre aussy touchant la dépense faite à Turin.

Les lettres ne peuvent plus aller d'icy en Suisse ni à Genève, par la val d' Aoust; mais si vous m'envoyez vos lettres pour ces endroits là, je les feray passer par Gennes et par Venice.

Je suis bien aise que vous ayez déjà songé à porter vos veües dans le Dauphiné. J'espère que vous trouverez un chemin par là pour établir les affaires en France. [Je suis, &c.]

[*à M. Cavallier.*] [HILL.][1]

[1] This letter of Mr. Hill's, with Cavallier's to which it is an answer, the Editor did not observe till it was too late to print the latter in its proper place, in the series of letters to Mr. Hill, in the first part of this volume. Cavallier's letter to Mr. Hill is therefore now inserted as follows:—

Monsieur,

Je me donne l'honneur de vous écrire la présente pour vous assurer de mes très humbles respects, et vous demander la continuation de vos bienfaits et l'honneur de votre protection; je viens de trouver un homme qui se vient offrir pour aller au païs, c'est un homme que je connois et que je crois seur, ainsy qu'il ne demande point de récompense,

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{18}{29}$th October, 1704.

Sir,

I have not the honour of any letters from you, since those of the 22nd August, S. V. I did myself the honour to write to you the 1st, 8th, and 15th instant; since that time I have been at the camp at Crescentin, attending his Royal Highness every day into the retrenchments before Verrue, where he does daily expose himself a good deal more than is convenient. The Duke of Vendôme presses on the siege, as if he apprehended that the rains would make his enterprise more difficult than it is. Fatal fair weather! since the oldest man alive here did never see till now the months of September, and October, without 10 or 15 days' rain in this country. The Duke of Vendôme opened his trenches the 20th inst., and carried on his approaches against our retrenchments, and a little hornwork[1] which was at the head of them. On the 25th the enemies were got within pistol-shot of the glacis,[2] before the said hornwork, working *par la sappe*, and we expected they would have made an assault to it this day. They have rather chosen to annoy us in our camp with their

il me promit de me donner réponse dans un mois et demy. Sy votre Excellence juge à propos de luy donner quelque chose je vous prie de me l'envoyer par le donneur de la présente. Je n'oublieray rien pour survenir aux affaires qui régardent notre patrie, et le service Divin. J'ay déjà pénétré un peu dans le Dauphiné. J'espère d'y aller faire un petit tour au premier jour pour reconnoitre la disposition du monde et du païs. J'espère que DIEU benira toutes nos entreprises. J'ose vous demander, Monsieur, sy les lettres peuvent passer pour la Suisse ou pour Genève vous me feriez la grace de me l'envoyer.

Je vous assure qu'il n'y a personne au monde qui aie plus de plaisir que moy d'avoir l'honneur de me dire très respectueusement et avec respect,

De votre Excellence,

Le très humble et très obéissant serviteur,

De Luzerne, CAVALLIER.

10e *Octobre*, 1704.

Monsieur,

Je me trouve ici où il y a beaucoup de refugiés qui voudroient prendre partie avec moi, mais leur officier demande un ordre pour cela. Je prie votre excellence d' écrire à Son Altesse Royalle pour cela. J' aurai l'honneur d'obéir à ses ordres comme aussi de la dépense de Turin.

[1] A kind of angular fortification.

[2] In fortification, a sloping bank.

cannon, and their mortars, which are more terrible than mischievous. The Duke himself, Comte Guido, and all the infantry which we have, which are about 5000 men, are in Verrue, or in our retrenchments, and the Duke of Vendôme, with about 12,000 foot, for I do not reckon that he has more, will not easily drive us thence. The enemies do threaten to come to Turin so soon as they have done at Verrue, which does not lessen the vigour and obstinacy of our defence there. I believe the French are persuaded that Prince Eugene will be coming into Italy, so soon as he can possibly, and, therefore, they lay about them every way, as if they hoped they should make an end of the war in Piedmont before the winter is ended. The Comte de Linange, with about 12,000 men, is in the Bressan. He is not able to come forward; and we must be contented if he can keep his ground till P. Eugene does come to join him. The Comte de Briançon has orders to solicit the Queen very earnestly, that she would please to send a small squadron of ships to Villa-Franca this winter; and his Royal Highness has ordered his minister, at the Hague, to press the States for a proportionable number of their ships. The Comte cannot say enough to you how useful such a squadron would be, if her Majesty can spare them. In the mean time his Royal Highness has prevailed with me to send an express to Leghorn to call back the Lyme and Mary-Galley, who were going home, and does desire they may come to Nice, which [is] as "if he thought he might "want the use of those two ships to carry off his wife and "children before winter is over, the enemies being masters "of all other passages now into Piedmont." If her Majesty and the States should think fit to send such a squadron this winter to Villa-Franca, it will be the best, perhaps the only, way that the Marquis de Miremont can find into Piedmont. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the 6th November, 1704.

Sir,

I receivcd yesterday the honour of your letter, of the 26th September, S. V. If you were pleased to send me any other commands between that day and the 22nd August, they

are not yet come to my hands. I am glad the Queen was pleased to approve of what I did for M. Cavallier, because I must do more for him, I believe, or else he will never be able to make up his regiment; since the ways are now stopped by which he hoped to get men from Geneva, and out of France. I should say nothing of him now, if I were not amazed so oft as I see him. A very little fellow, son of a peasant, bred to be a baker, at 20 years of age, with 18 men like himself, began to make war upon the King of France. He kept the field about 18 months against a Mareschal of France, and an army of 10,000 men, and made an honourable capitulation at last with the mighty Monarch. It is certain that he, and his followers, were animated with such a spirit of zeal for their religion which is the true enthusiasm. I fear they may lose that temper of mind in the commerce of the world, though they are very devout and very regular. I therefore will do all I can to get them back into France, where one Camisard is worth 100 refugees. I am glad the Queen is pleased to approve of the services which the Lyme and Mary-Galley have done for his Royal Highness; and I must beg of you to send me the approbation of her Majesty for the services which those two frigates are yet to do here, according to the prayer of my last letter. I fear I may venture them too far at last, and desire that I may have your authority for it, or your commands to send them home. The two officers, who were taken at sea by the French galleys, aboard a tartane which had a letter of marque, and were executed at Nismes, were born in France, but had commissions from his Royal Highness; and I think, with great submission, that they ought to have [had] as good quarter as is given to the Irish, or to the Germans who serve the enemies. When I came out of England I had a commission under the great seal to treat with the Grand Duke, and with the Republic of Venice; but I had neither instructions nor letters of credence to either place. I did think that something might be done whilst the impressions of the Queen's victory at Hochstet were fresh and deep. I fear those impressions are now worn out; and the system of Italy is very much altered the last two months. This, I think, you may depend upon, that every thing beyond Piedmont are cowards; that they have no attention for any thing but to get the war out of Italy; to be rid of the Goths, and of the Gauls. If Sir G. Rooke's victory had been as entire as

was that at Hochstet, the Queen's name would have been terrible in every cloister of Italy. At present they are afraid of nothing but the French, who have joined Lombardy to France. The Emperor is too good and too godly to frighten any body. I shall not think of deserting from my post here. It is a post of honour, nor will I abandon his Royal Highness in the condition he is. If the affairs of Italy do so alter as to give me any just encouragement, I will make use of the letters of credence which you are pleased to say you will send me, either for Venice, or for Florence, or at both places; since I must necessarily pass by the one, if I go to the other. We expect every hour that the enemies should make a general assault upon our retrenchments before Verrue, which will determine the fate of that place, and something more. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{1st}{12th}$ November, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you the 6th inst.; since then I have received the letters which you were pleased to write to me, the 12th and 15th September, which had lost the way in the disorders which our couriers have been put into. The letters from London, of the 19th and 22nd September, are still rambling somewhere. I am very sorry to find so material a deficiency in my treaty with his Royal Highness, occasioned by the omission of the additional article to the treaty of the great alliance, signed at the Hague, April the 12th, 1702. The truth is that I had no manner of knowledge of that article, which is not in a written copy of the treaty of the grand alliance, which I got from your office when I came from London, nor in a printed copy which I brought with me from the Hague. I will now make all the haste I can, to get it signed and ratified here, in the best form I can, and send it to you, not expecting any difficulty from his Royal Highness, with regard to what he owes to his best, and, indeed, to his only good ally. As to your enquiry concerning the Marquis de Mouchy, the character of the man, and the reasonableness of his proposal. I can tell you, that he is a very senseless, idle, trifling French thing, who could not live at home, and knows not how to live abroad. He was

here with such a proposal, about 8 months since, and we made a gathering for him, to send him away, not believing he was fit for any thing. It would now be curious to see our friends of Bern give leave to a Popish exile to raise a regiment amongst them for the service of the Queen and States after the difficulties they laid in Belcastel's way. But as I believe he expects nor deserves no answer from you, I shall say no more of him. If he must be answered, you will please to bid him produce his licence from any of the Cantons to raise his men in their territories, and then you will bid me ask his Royal Highness for a place d' Armes, or a lieu d' Assemblée in his estates, and then I must know which way the Marquis must march his men hither. Though these are things which no Marquis—I mean no Popish Marquis—does think of. I believe, Sir, you will have another Marquis with you quickly. It is he, concerning whom I wrote to you the $\frac{14}{25}$th September. I am told he is now gone from Lausanne with intentions to go to the Hague, and to London. I thank you, Sir, for the copy of Sir G. Rooke's good letter. I make the best use of it for the Queen's honour, and for his reputation. But the account is come so late, and our situation here, at present, so little proper for bonfires, that I have not desired his Royal Highness to sing any *Te Deum* for that victory. I hear of only two ships of the Comte de Thoulouse's fleet which are yet come into Toulon. The rest rigged, and refitted, as well as they could, on the coasts of Spain, and are gone, I believe, to Cadiz. The French letters say they are to take Gibraltar, and that Pointi is to go with 14 French ships with the trade from Cadiz to the Indies, and to bring the return to Spain, or to France. I had almost spoiled all the Duke of Mantua's spiteful projects for succession the last week. His fair Duchess was coming in 4 French galleys from Antibes to Genoa, and was met by the Queen's two frigates, who saluted her Highness very roughly. The galleys got within the shore, and landed the Princess in a cock-boat. One mile more of sea-room, and we had saved her from the hands of a filthy Italian husband. I must once more beg of you to let me have the Queen's leave to keep these two frigates here, or to have her commands to send them home; for I shall drown them, I fear, or knock them in the head, before the winter is over. The rains are come at last, for which we are very thankful; but they are come to difficilitate, not to prevent, the designs of the enemy.

We defended our dirty retrenchments before Verrue 16 days de tranchée ouverte. We stood one very rude assault, and repulsed the enemies with so much mettle, that they would bite there no more. They pushed on their works *par la sappe* and *par la mine ;* and when we found they had carried them so far as that they were ready to set fire to their mines, we wisely retired, and abandoned what we could not defend. We put 1500 men into Verrue, and the rest of our foot into Crescentin, where his Royal Highness sleeps every night, and spends the day in Verrue. We had sent almost all our horse to Quiers, and Saluces, to hinder the enemies' horse from foraging our neighbours. The trenches are opened in form before Verrue, and are brought very near the glacis, where they are now working on their batteries, and labouring hard, with infinite pains and expense, to bring their artillery. We think not of winter-quarters; but we believe the enemies will be so tired, and wasted with this siege of Verrue, that they will be glad to rest after it. We expect, or desire, no more now from Count Linange, but that he will not suffer himself to be starved, or to be beaten out of the Bressan. We desire nothing at all from P. Lewis, for fear he should know what would be good for us. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the $\frac{4}{15}$th November, 1704.

My Lord,

I am to thank your Lordship for the honour of your letter of the 26th September, which I received here the last week. I am also to thank your Lordship for the answer which Sir C. Hedges has been pleased to make to that part of it which related to the Venetians; but I must, at the same time, tell your Lordship, that I believe those Gentlemen will be less disposed at present to take any vigorous resolutions than they were about two months since. The Imperialists have quite worn out in Italy the merit of all that my Lord Duke of Marlborough did for them on the Danube. The Senate has seen the Emperor's armies perish upon their frontiers in want of every thing for the last two years. They have seen the Duke of Savoy abandoned this year, losing his places, and his troops. They will have some hopes, at present, to see

the war in Italy ended this winter, without their meddling on either side, which is the favourite maxim of all the States in Italy. They see the Comte de Linange labouring, at present, to keep his ground against the Grand Prior whilst the Duke of Vendôme is too hard for us in Piedmont. The Italian policy is to be on the strongest side, even against their own inclinations, and their future interests, which they leave to time and chance. I am speaking now as things are to day. If the P. of Baden had made more despatch at Landau: if the Duke of Marlborough can yet bring his good designs to bear: if P. Eugene can come early into Italy with some fresh troops: if the Duke of Vendôme and his brother wear out with fatigue and sickness the rest of their troops: if the Queen's arms are successful in Portugal, and her fleet in a condition to come early into the Mediterranean: if some of these good cards turn up, I shall then think it may be for her Majesty's service to go and try to keep this war alive in Italy, on the other side of Lombardy at least. I must tell your Lordship very naturally, that unless the situation of our affairs here does alter within two months, your Lordship's subsidies will pay all the armies which we can have in Piedmont, Germans, Savoyards, garrisons, &c.

I am sorry to find that money is less scarce in France than it was when I wrote last to your Lordship. The payments at Lyons are at 2 per cent now, which make 8 per cent per annum. The Duke of Vendôme wants no money for the subsistence of his army, or for carrying on the siege of Verrue, which he does with infinite labour and expense. But I must observe, that this is the time of the year that money is most courant in France. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{8}{19}$th November, 1704.

Sir,

I received the last night the honour of your letter, of the 19th September, with an enclosed draft of an article to be added to our treaty with his Royal Highness. I had indeed made so much haste to obey the orders which you sent me, the 15th Sept., that I had already finished that matter, which was signed and sealed yesterday, and is gone to Cres-

centin to be ratified by his Royal Highness. What we had done is so very like the draft which you have sent me since, that I hope you will excuse me if I do not trouble the ministers here to alter it; especially since I had given a copy of my project to the Dutch minister here, desiring him to send it to the Hague, in order to have it inserted in the treaty with the States, which is not yet finished. I think we have now convinced this part of the world, that Sir G. Rooke's victory was *belle et bonne*, though it had not so great an air as the battle at Hochstet. But the fate of Gibraltar will determine the controversy between our bonfires, and those of the enemy. I am the more willing to put it to that issue, because we hear Pointi is got to Cadiz, and would not venture his wooden parapets against the cannon of that place; and we hear that the Count de Thoulouse is coming to Toulon. He lost one of his great ships on the sands, near the coasts of Catalonia, and, if it had pleased God, he had lost 13 more. I hope you will hold your hands pretty hard upon the Genoese, and Livornese great ships, which I hear are brought to England. The French do confiscate every thing which they take upon such bottoms, if it comes from the ports of their enemies, and every thing which they are pleased to call contraband which is going to their enemies. Yet the French have no reason, I am sure, to complain of the partiality of those two States. I think we have reasons enough to complain of them both, when it is worth while. Seven of the galleys which met Sir G. Rooke, off of Malaga, were armed and fitted out of the port of Genoa. There is the place d'armes for the French armies in Italy. Their recruits, their armies, their ammmunition, their money, their provisions, &c., are all landed at Genoa and a good deal of all these things has been, as I am told, transported thither in Genoese bottoms. Provision is just now making there for a great convoy, and a reinforcement of 5 or 6000 foot, which the Duke of Vendôme expects from the ports of Provence. I am angry with these men of Genoa for firing last week, but one, upon the Queen's two frigates, which beat four French galleys under their shore; though I know not yet whether I shall have reason to complain of them. I remember they suffered the Duke of Tursis's people to sieze some Piedmontese officers the last winter in the very port of Genoa, and did no more than complain thereof at Versailles. His Royal Highness is still at Crescen-

tin, from whence he goes almost every day into the castle of Verrue, though the enemies have two batteries at work from the foot of the glacis. The place must do its best, and when it is beaten to pieces it must be taken. After this siege is over I hope we shall be able to scramble with the enemies for our winter-quarters, though it will be in Piedmont. An officer is come this week from Vienna who brings us great promises, and some hopes, of succours. But hopes and promises will not beat squadrons and battalions. We fear the Mareschal de Villars will soon make an end of his affairs in Languedoc, and that all his troops, and, perhaps, he himself, will be sent into Piedmont. We are not desirous to change the Duke of Vendôme for that Mareschal. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, $\frac{15}{26}$th November, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you the 6th, the 12th, and 19th inst., and I have acknowledged the receipt of your letters, of the 12th, 15th, 19th and 26th, September, S.V., having none of a later date for which I am to thank you. I send my letters to you as carefully as I can, to avoid the curiosity of our ill neighbours, and if you please to send your commands for me under cover to Sir L. Blackwell, I will do the best I can to get them safe hither. Our couriers from Genoa must necessarily pass over a corner of the territories of Final, and they are often visited by the Spaniards. The last mail was rifled, and the letters directed to me taken out. I have now his Royal Highness's ratification to the article which I lately added to our treaty; but I dare not venture it to day. I will send it by the first good occassion, at least the counterpart which is to be ratified by her Majesty. Our castle of Verrue holds out still, and will do so about 15 days yet, though the enemies have brought their batteries within forty paces of the palisades. I should be content to lose this heap of rubbish at that time, since we hope the enemies will be so well tired then, as to be quiet for three or four months; but I fear we shall lose the garrison likewise, which we cannot so well spare. His Royal Highness has lost 20 battalions of his own troops already in Verceil and Ivrea. The officers are

all prisoners yet; and so are the soldiers who are not entered into the French service, or dead with misery. The Duke of Vendôme chooses to let about 700 of his officers and soldiers, which are fallen into our hands this campaign, suffer a great deal rather than to exchange them with so many of our men, because he knows we want ours more than he wants his men.

"I must needs advise you, that I do not yet see which way it "is possible for his Royal Highness to get 15,000 men into "his service against spring, according to the obligations of his "treaty. It is my business to see that the Queen has some- "thing for her money. At present, I fear she will have very "little. If the Emperor cannot, or will not, give a new and a "different turn to his affairs in Italy, he only loses his armies "there by pieces, the Queen will lose all her money, and the "Duke of Savoy all his country."

The Comte de Thoulouse brought 30 of his great ships to Toulon, where they are lying up. Pointi went with 13 to Cadiz, and I hope Sir John Leake met with the rest of that fleet in the bay of Gibraltar. The seven Genoese galleys are come into that port. I think one of the best reasons which the French King gave about twenty years since, when he bombarded Genoa, was, that four of these galleys were employed in the Spanish service. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the 3rd December, 1704, N. S.

Sir,

"I have been all the last week at Crescentin to make "my court as close as I could to his Royal Highness. I was "so justly alarmed with some appearances of some negotia- "tions with the enemy, that I told his Royal Highness I "should be obliged to hang myself, if he took such desperate "measures for his deliverance, whilst the Queen and the Duke "of Marlborough were taking so much pains for his assist- "ance, &c. His Royal Highness did confess, that he had "received a letter from the Duke of Vendôme directed to the "Marquis de St. Thomas, Secretary of State, which he shewed "me. It was dated the 18th November; it contained general "expressions of the said Duke's consideration for the house "of Savoy, and of the violent condition into which it is re-

"duced, of the French King's resentments, and how far he, "Duke of Vendome, is willing to employ his good offices to "accommodate matters for his Royal Highness with the Court "of France. His Royal Highness shewed me the answer, "which he had ordered to be sent to the Duke of Vendôme, "containing his just reasons to defend himself against the "violence which was offered to him in October, 1703; the "generous assistance which he had received from his allies, "and his resolutions to deserve, by his courage, and firmness "to his engagements, the esteem of the French King, &c. "His Royal Highness did then assure me, that though he "has suffered, and does suffer, a great deal, and is reduced to "great extremities, he will never abandon his allies till he is "quite abandoned by them. But he then shewed me how "little he could depend upon the promises, and, indeed, upon "the power, of the Emperor, unless the Queen and the States "would send a body of their troops into Italy, so provided "and subsisted as to be in a condition to act; and, lastly, "desired me to let the Queen know, that, without such a "body of troops, he did not believe the Emperor could do "any thing, either for his own interests in Lombardy, or for "the security of Turin. I did not fail, as you will believe, to "put him in mind of the Queen's care, of the Duke of Marl- "borough's zeal and activity, of my Lord Treasurer's punctu- "ality, and, lastly, of Mons. de Miremont's expedition. He "owned, with great respect, the Queen's goodness, and the "merits of her two great ministers, but made no account of "the Marquis's projects. I must now observe, that the two "letters which his Royal Highness shewed me, were but "copies, and I am not sure that they do exactly agree with "the originals, or that these were all the letters which have "passed between the Duke of Vendôme and the Marquis de St. "Thomas. I have also many reasons to believe, that unless "the Queen and the States do resolve to make war in Italy "for the Emperor, as they do in Portugal, his Royal High- "ness will scarce venture the success of another campaign." I think the Duke of Vendôme has done us great good in besieging Verrue at this time of the year, where his infantry does suffer extremely, and will not be in any condition to do us any more mischief these three months; especially if the place can hold out, as we believe it will, these 15 days yet. The rains have covered us during the last 5 days from the

enemy's fire, and every rainy day will be a holiday at Verrue. I have just now received the honour of your letter, of the 29th September, and have only time to say so much, and that I am very glad the two letters, which were enclosed in it, did not fall into other hands, as I feared they had done. I am also to thank you for what you were pleased to write to me by Mr. Tucker, the 3rd October, S. V. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Duke of Marlborough.

Turin, the 7th December, 1704.

My Lord,

I am so sensible of the great care which your Grace does take of us here, as well as of the rest of the world, that I am unwilling to be more importunate to you than is necessary. I do desire you, therefore, to let me transmit to your Grace a copy of what I thought necessary to write in cipher, by the last post, to Mr. Secretary Hedges. I will only add, that I do not think it is possible for the Emperor to keep the war alive in Italy for another campaign, especially if the disorders in Hungary do require his attention, without the assistance of the Queen and the States. The troops which the Emperor has in Italy have had no recruits these three years past, and those at least which are with Count Guido in Piedmont are worn to nothing. His Royal Highness has lost almost all his troops this campaign, and I know not which way it will be possible to recruit them, or to procure more. I need not trouble your Grace with a particular account of our misfortunes here. I leave that to the Marquis de Prié. I only beg leave to say, that unless such measures are taken very quickly as to give a new turn and vivacity to this war in Italy, the Queen's enemies will have all the benefit of it. They have already the Milanese, the Mantuan, the Modenese, all Savoy, and half Piedmont at their service, and they make the most of their conquests. On the other side the Emperor wears out here by pieces his best troops. The Queen loses her money, and the Duke of Savoy loses his country. I shall take leave to write to your Grace again, so soon as Verrue is taken, and that I see what are the consequences of that conquest. I am, &c.

To the Lord Duke of Marlborough. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the 10th December, 1704, S. N.

Sir,

I received yesterday the honour of your letters of the 8th, and 20th October, and I miss none of the letters which you were pleased to send to me between the 4th of July and the 8th October, except that of the 19th Sept., which is not come to my hands. My letters to you have been more unlucky. I believe mine of the 19th August, and 19th September will never come to your hands. I wish those of the 8th, 15th, 29th October, and of the 6th, 12th, 19th, 26th November, and that of the 3rd inst., which I have had the honour to write to you, may be more fortunate. I have nothing to add to my last letters, for I believe no new measures will be taken till the business of Verrue is over. The enemies made two assaults the last week upon the chemin couvert, and were vigorously repulsed in both. We have repaired our bridge over the Po, and do maintain our communication between Crescentin and Verrue, so as to refresh the garrison every day. We suffer in the place, and our little army does dwindle away daily; but we have the satisfaction to believe that the enemies do suffer a great deal more, and that the Duke of Vendôme will not be in a condition to undertake any thing more till his recruits, or a reinforcement of fresh troops, can come to him from France. We shall have all that time to expect P. Eugene, and the forces which he, or rather which my Lord Marlborough, can send us from Germany. We were lately told, that great magazines were making at Suze for the subsistence of 10,000 men, and we were ready to believe, that the troops, which have been employed in Languedoc these two years past, would be sent into Piedmont. I do not find that those magazines are yet filled, or that any great diligence is used about them, and, I believe, we shall have two or three months' time to look about us. The Duke of Bavaria's pretensions to the sovereignty of the low countries make us give some credit to a system which we have heard of, of giving the kingdoms of Naples and Sicily to the Duke of Berry, in which a great many of the Neapolitan nobility are engaged. I think it is certain that those people are desirous to have a King of their own, and even those who were ready to call in the Archduke there have no devotion for King Charles the 3d. The Milanese on the contrary seem still desirous to belong to the

King of Spain, whoever he is, and will always be *præda victoris*. We are mightily delighted with Sir John Leake's good success at Gibraltar, and we believe that your care of that important place will hasten the coming of the Queen's fleet into the Mediterranean; but I beg of you to believe, that though the Queen's ships can beat every thing which they meet at sea, yet they carry terror with them to the coasts of Spain and Italy only in proportion to the number of red-coats which are aboard them. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to the Lord Treasurer.

Turin, the 10th December, 1704, S. N.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to you the 15th November, and should be afraid to trouble your Lordship again to day, if it were not to thank you, in the name of his Royal Highness, for the bills which I received the last week, with which I have paid the Queen's subsidies here till the 2nd February. I may add, that you are the only good ally that we have, and that it is your Lordship alone who has made war in Italy this last summer. I might go farther, and say, that Count Guidos' Germans, and all those who are upon the civil list here, are very inquisitive to know when my bills come. You will easily believe that the campaign has been ruinous and expensive to his Royal Highness; that it cost him a great deal to lose Suze, Verceil, Ivrea, and to defend Verrue; but the loss of his troops is what does still affect me more. I am far from putting bounds to the Queen's generosity and goodness towards an ally, who acts and suffers gallantly; but if my Lord Duke of Marlborough does send any troops into Italy for our deliverance, I think his Royal Highness should be glad to have them in his own pay, since I do not see how it is possible for him to have any troops of his own growth, or raising. We are, at present, like the end of a game at chess, where the King works for his own defence, with a Knight, and three or four pawns. I think we have great obligations to the Duke of Vendôme for undertaking the siege of Verrue, where he tires his troops, and has lost two months, in which time he might have eat up the rest of Piedmont. I was desirous to expect the fate of Verrue be-

fore I did write to your Lordship, because a letter will be near six weeks between this place and London, and in six weeks' time, nay in six days', the whole system of our affairs here may alter. I have all the attention, which I can possibly, to take aim right, before I resolve to go, or not to go, to see some part of the Carnival at Venice.

I have infinite satisfaction to see the honour and reputation which the Queen has in this part of the world; and every body abroad is wise and honest enough to do justice to those who are the ministers, or authors, of her glory. I am, &c.

To the Lord Treasurer. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{6}{17}$th December, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you the last post, which was the 10th inst.; since then the siege of Verrue goes on in due form and manner. At the fifth attack, the enemies lodged themselves upon our palisades, and then we set fire to two mines with very good success. Ever since the enemies are lodged there, they are working at their new platforms, in order to bring their artillery thither, from whence they may bear upon the foot of our walls. But it is easy to observe, that they work now as if they were weary of it, and as if they had not hands enough to carry on their works. They have not yet brought their great cannons to the counterscarp, and are contented to pelt us at a distance to little purpose. They have not yet ruined our defences, nor dismounted our artillery, which does its duty very well. It is now 60 days that the Duke of Vendôme is diverting himself at this dirty siege; and I think we ought to set up a statue to his memory in every street of Turin. By the best accounts which we can get, his infantry is now reduced to about 7000, and a great part of these will be good for nothing but to recruit their hospitals, before we have done with them. If the accounts which we get from the Milanese, and the enemies' quarters are just, there are near 18,000 French at present in the several hospitals, belonging to the two armies, which are commanded by the two gracious brothers. I observe this with the greater pleasure, because every useless poor creature in these hospitals does cost their master as much as four grenadiers who

mount the trenches; and this is one of those expensive articles upon which the French King is cheated in Italy, as much as any King of Spain ever was. O rare Italy! which has served, in all ages, to murder, and to bury Frenchmen. This they will not yet know at Vienna; or, if they do, they are not the better for their knowledge. The King of the Romans has sent one of his adjutants to notify to his Royal Highness the taking of Landau, and has wrote him a very gracious letter with his own hand. The same adjutant has brought some projects for the succours of Italy. The title of them is, *Idée pour le secours d'Italie.* Very pretty. About 15 months after the treaty is signed, the forces, which the Emperor was to send hither, are now in Idea, and do still depend upon the success of my Lord Duke of Marlborough's negotiations at Berlin. The Marquis de Prié is gone to meet my Lord Duke at the Hague, and will give his Royal Highness a just account of what he is to expect from the King of the Romans' ideas. I did tell you six months since, and can say as much now, that the Emperor has never sent one groat into Piedmont for the subsistence of those troops which Count Guido brought hither in January last. It is true that Guido did borrow about 40,000 pistoles here at the beginning of the campaign; but his bills for that sum lie still protested at Vienna. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Crescentin, $\frac{13}{24}$th December, 1704.

Sir,

I received here yesterday the honour of your three letters, of the 3rd, 7th, and 10th November. I am glad the Queen is pleased to order the two frigates to winter in Villa-Franca, from whence they have already obliged the enemies to increase their convoys, from Provence to Genoa, from one or two frigates to six. I have provided our ships with provisions of all species for three months, and have sent them to sea to make war. I have communicated to his Royal Highness the resolutions which have been taken at the Cockpit upon Count Briançon's memorial. I am desired to second his solicitations by telling you that his master does still desire leave to raise 4000 Irish at his own expense. The objection which you make, and which I did make at first, as I told you

in my letter of September 22nd, does not discourage his Royal Highness, who is willing to venture that, and a great deal more, "to have some troops to garrison Nice and Turin, "for which we have not troops enough; nor can we tell "where to get them. As for the 3000 fusils, and as many "bayonets, we desire to have them, and to pay for them out "of the subsidies. We are very sensible and very thankful "for the orders, which the Queen has been pleased to send "the Duke of Marlborough, for sending a body of troops to "Piedmont which are in her pay. The Marquis de Prié is "gone to the Hague to observe the resolutions which would "be taken there in this matter upon my Lord Marlborough's "arrival." I am assured, that the French ships which came into Toulon are in a very ill condition; that the seamen are not yet paid, and that it does not yet appear there, whether the French intend to fit out a royal navy for the next summer. I am persuaded that the Venetians have not yet thought of putting a garrison into Mantua. They are too fond of their beloved neutrality, and their passive obedience. "I "think I could go from hence to Venice without prejudice "to the service of his Royal Highness, and I only stay till it "may be to purpose to go thither." I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

Mr. Hill to the Duke of Marlborough.

Crescentin, 24th December, 1704.

My Lord,

So soon as I had received the letter, which your Grace was pleased to write to me, the 13th November, I made haste hither to shew it to his Royal Highness, who desires me to say how sensible he is of the pains and the care which you do take for his assistance. I must add, that all his hopes and expectations have been from your Grace ever since the $\frac{\text{2nd}}{\text{13th}}$ August; and if you had not been that day at Hochstet I am sure I should not have been now in Piedmont: perhaps, his Royal Highness would not be there. Here we are at Crescentin up to the knees in dirt ever since the beginning of May; the Duke of Vendôme has never been able to draw us, or drive us, from this post. It is just such a place as Eton,

and Verrue is very like Windsor Castle, between which we preserve our bridge over the Po, from hence we cover Turin, and have hindered the enemies from taking quarters in Piedmont. Our castle at Verrue is attacked rather than besieged ever since the 14th October, but does defend itself very bravely still. We keep our communication open yet, and change one-third of the garrison every third-day. The enemies are lodged on the counterscarp these 15 days, but are got no farther yet. Their artillery is not very well served, and they have not yet ruined our defences; they work most under ground, and have blown up part of a *fausse braie*, but have not yet attempted to lodge themselves on the breach. At the rate they go on with 40 weak and tired battalions we shall find them work for 15 days yet; and about that time I shall do myself the honour to write to your Grace. I find the Duke of Vendôme has sent several officers of the regiments which are with him in Italy to fetch the recruits from France which the King provides. "Where or how his Royal High-"ness will recruit his few troops, I cannot tell: or how the "few Germans which are left with Count Guido will be re-"cruited, I cannot imagine. We have not soldiers enough in "Piedmont to put a garrison into Turin. I am, &c.

To the Lord Duke of Marlborough. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the $\frac{18}{29}$th December, 1704.

Sir,

I did myself the honour to write to you the $\frac{13}{24}$th. I did then give you an account of his Royal Highness's resolutions upon the subject of Count Briançon's memorial. Since then his Royal Highness has altered his opinion upon the subject of the Irish levies. What you have said to the Count, and what I have said here, have, at last, convinced his Royal Highness that those creatures are not to be trusted. The news, which we have got by an express from the Hague, that my Lord Marlborough has negotiated for us at Berlin with the same spirit and success with which he did fight for us on the Danube, do make us hope that we shall have less need of getting men from Ireland. The 26th inst., his Royal Highness and Count Guido went up to Verrue, and ordered a sally

to be made with 2000 men upon the besiegers, which was so wisely disposed, and so bravely executed, that it had all the good success we could imagine. We forced the enemies from their trenches, and their batteries; we levelled their approaches, nailed up four mortars and nine cannons, of those which were nearest to us and did us most harm. We set fire to their powder and fascines, and filled up their mines. We took a Lieutenant-General, and eight officers, who commanded in their trenches, prisoners, and killed about 400 of the enemies, and all with the loss of about 80 men. Such a sally after 66 days' siege *de la tranchée ouverte* is very glorious, and very profitable; and, I think, we are the first who have the honour to nail up the French King's cannon for some years past. The Lieutenant-General, whom we have taken, is called De Chertoigne; he was much esteemed amongst the enemies, and was to be Governor of Verrue, into which place we brought him a good many days sooner than the Duke of Vendôme could do. I hope, for my own part, that the enemies will still continue the siege: for though we suffer a good deal, they suffer a great deal more: and I hope this will not be the last serenade which we shall give them. I am told that the enemies are fitting out 13 ships, and two bomb-vessels, at Toulon, with great diligence. I am going this morning to Crescentin, to make my court to one of the bravest Princes alive. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

The following is from a rough draft of a letter commenced by Mr. Chetwynd, but with corrections and additions in the hand-writing of Mr. Hill. It does not appear to whom it was addressed.

Turin, the 31st December, 1704.

The 26th inst., in the afternoon, his Royal Highness ordered about 2000 men from Crescentin to Verrue, to make a sally from thence, to ruin the enemies' trenches and batteries, and drive them from their advanced posts; the troops which were to make this sally were divided into two bodies, the Germans commanded by Count Maximilian Staremberg, and the Piémontese by Mons. Le. Baron de St. Remy; every

thing being ready, both parties marched out of Verrue about four of the clock in the afternoon, and gained the enemies' batteries which were the farthest off of the place, before they were discovered, which gave such a general consternation in the trenches, that our people met with no great opposition in the execution of their orders; we levelled their trenches, destroyed several of their mines, and nailed up nine pieces of their cannon, and four mortars, which were upon the counter-scarp, and designed to make the breach: besides this we nailed up several other pieces of cannon, which were on the other batteries, and set fire to their carriages, and to all the fascines and powder we met with. Mons. de Chertogne, Lieut-General, who commanded in the trenches, was wounded in two places, and taken prisoner, with eight officers more. Mons. d' Immecour, Major-General, was killed in the action, and de Chertogne is since dead of his wounds. We lost about 80 men, and three or four officers; but it is believed the enemies lost between 4 and 500 men on this occasion.

At the time that this attack was made by the foot, General Feltz, who commands the horse at Chivas, had received orders to pass the Po, and make a false attack on that side upon the enemies' camp, which orders he executed so well, that the whole French camp was in confusion, and we are assured that several of the officers had already sent away their equipages from the head-quarters.

If the sally had been made but half an hour sooner, it is certain that the Duke of Vendôme would have fallen into our hands, for he was then in the trenches.

Since this attack the enemies have been so employed in repairing their approaches, that they have not fired very much upon the place, and we reckon they will want some days' labour to repair their disorders.

His Royal Highness had consented to exchange Mons. de Chertogne, if he had lived, for Mons. de Vaubonne; and that the other French officers taken in this action should, likewise, be exchanged: so, it is believed, we shall now clear our hands of what prisoners we have for so many of our officers or soldiers who are in the enemies' hands; till now Mons de Vendôme could never be brought to hearken to any exchange, though his Royal Highness had often pressed it.

We hear from Savoy, that the French bombard Montmeillian.

Mr. Hill to the Duke of Marlborough.

Turin, the 4th January, S.N., $170\frac{4}{5}$.

My Lord,

I did myself the honour to write to your Grace the last week; since then I have been at Crescentin, where his Royal Highness did shew me a copy of the treaty, which your Grace had signed at Berlin, with the Comte de Wachtenberg, for the 8000 men, which the King of Prussia is to send to Italy, which treaty the King had sent hither for the ratification of his Royal Highness, who did immediately send his ratification to Berlin, but with an exception to the 7th article, which promises winter-quarters to the said 8000 Prussians, and, likewise, to that article which asserts the King of Prussia's right and title to the county of Neufchatel. The reasons, which his Royal Highness does give for these exceptions, are, that he does not think it fit to give winter-quarters in Piedmont to these 8000 Prussians, who are to come for the service of the common cause: and because his Royal Highness cannot enter into any engagements concerning the county of Neufchatel, to which his uncle, the P. de Carignan, has great pretensions. I was, I must confess, surprised at these exceptions, thinking that 8000 men, which are so much wanted in Italy, would have been very welcome upon much harder terms. I did therefore desire his Royal Highness to consider, 1st, that the 7th article does not require quarters in Piedmont for the 8000 men, only winter-quarters in general, which may be in the Milanese, Mantuan, Parmesan, or any where else; 2ndly, that, in all appearance, these 8000 men cannot possibly come this year into Piedmont, and can only be employed with the Emperor's forces towards the Adige, and the Mincio, and that this treaty expiring with the year, his Royal Highness was at liberty, 10 months hence, to make this exception; 3dly, I did observe, that, if these 8000 men could possibly open a way into Piedmont, I thought it would be the greatest good which could happen to his Royal Highness to have such a body of troops for the defence of his country; since it is not possible for him to get so many men together any other way; and that, therefore, his Royal Highness should be glad to have them, though they were to be at his own pay and expense; lastly, I did observe, that the Queen was at a much greater and more certain expense to send these troops into Italy for the immediate deliverance of his Royal Highness

than the remote and imaginary burden of them could possibly be to him. But all I could say, or do, was too late; for his Royal Highness had already sent his ratifications to Berlin, with the exceptions which I have mentioned. I hope the King of Prussia will be contented with the ratification of the treaty as it is gone hence, and then all is well enough; for I take it for certain that those 8000 men will come to serve in Lombardy under the Prince Eugene; but there is yet no appearance of their coming into Piedmont so soon.

Our castle of Verrue does hold out still, and the Duke of Vendôme has work there for some days longer. What we shall do afterwards, I cannot yet tell; but sure I am that we have not foot enough to put a garrison into Turin. We are hard at work to fortify Chivas, a little place 10 miles hence, which is to be our frontier when Verrue does fall. I am, &c.

To the Duke of Marlborough. HILL.

From Mr. Hill to Mr. Secretary Hedges.

Turin, the 4th January, $170\frac{4}{5}$.

Sir,

I have received the honour of your letter of the 17th November, which came by the way of Berne. I have already acknowledged the receipt of those letters and commands, which you sent me the 29th September, the 3rd, 7th, and 10th November. The letters, which I expected from London of the 23rd, and 27th October, are carried to Final and Milan. I have had the honour to write to you the 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, and 29th December, and hope some of my letters, at least, will find the way to you. I have told you formerly, that I have all the attention which I can possibly, and that "I keep myself in a posture to run to Venice, whenever I "think it may be for the Queen's service. I think that time "is coming, and I shall be on the wing when I hear that "Prince Eugene, the 8000 Prussians, and the rest of the "Emperor's forces, are in the Tyrol. I am told, that there is "some kind of negotiation a foot at Rome between the Am-"bassadors of the Emperor, and the Republic, and that the "language of the latter does alter in proportion to the ap-"pearances of the arrival of the Emperor's armies in Italy." But those wise ministers conclude upon nothing. I did tell you, in my last, that his Royal Highness does no longer insist

upon the design of any levies to be made in Ireland, and that he does desire the 3000 fusils, and as many bayonets, to be paid for in England out of the subsidies. I did visit the last summer very often "the port of Villa-Franca, and it is natur-"ally a very good one, secured from all winds, except the "S.S.W. to which it is exposed a good deal; the anchorage is "very good, from 8 to 18 fathom water. It is defended from "the insults of any enemy by an old castle, which is a good "one, only the batteries are too high. I got a platform made "last summer *à fleur d'eau;* but I have never yet been able "to get any cannons mounted on it. However, I hope I shall "prevail for that before the Queen's frigates do come. This "port is an admirable station for some cruisers, either to in-"terrupt the enemies' trade in the Mediterranean, or to diffi-"cilitate their convoys which are to go this spring from Pro-"vence to Genoa." We have lately had another instance of the Pope's partiality, seeing some of his wretched troops joined with the French, on the borders of the Ferrarese, to hinder the Imperialists from sending some succours into Mirandola. We have not the same reason to complain of the Venetians, who are indeed severely treated on both sides, but seem to observe the most exact and impartial neutrality imaginable. I think I must not conceal from you that the Marquis de Prié, a minister of his Royal Highness, gave in a very pressing and querulous memorial to the Emperor in the beginning of September, in which he was not contented to complain of those allies who were wanting to their engagements; but he added also that the maritime powers, (an injurious term I think, which grows into fashion,) were so attentive to their interests of trade and commerce, that, perhaps, they would be contented with some treaty of partition, and abandon the common interests of Europe, &c. This memorial, of which the Marquis was sending a copy hither, fell into the French hands, and they make all the use they can of it. I could not forbear complaining to his Royal Highness, or, at least, lamenting the injury which is done by it to the Queen, at a time when her armies were on the Danube, and her fleets in the Mediterranean, for the assistance and protection of her allies. I hope to procure a copy of the memorial, which I shall send to you, and shall be more angry if you bid me to be so. I did send you, Sir, the 27th November, the additional article to our treaty signed and ratified here in due

form. I keep that part here which is for the Queen, and sent only the counterpart which her Majesty will please to ratify, and which you will order into the hands of Count Briançon for his master. I am told again, Sir, that there are some projects a foot for settling the crowns of Naples and Sicily upon the Duke of Berry, and that the Pope, and the Grand Duke, are weak enough to come into this system. I can scarce believe this; but I would have the Spaniards believe, that France is now making a partition, in which it gives all to itself.

I am again alarmed with the news of 13 ships fitted out of Toulon, which I suppose are to go and join Pointi at the Straits, in order to drive Sir John Leake, if they can, from before Gibraltar, which the French and Spaniards cannot suffer in the Queen's hands.

Our castle of Verrue does its duty still. His Royal Highness, and Comte Guido, must have all the honour of it, which will be great enough. They owe little, God knows, to the Emperor, who can neither make peace in Hungary, nor war in Lombardy. We live and subsist here, at present, upon the hopes of my Lord Marlborough's 8000 Prussians. But if P. Eugene is to go down to Hungary, it will bring a great discount immediately upon all our actions in Italy. I desire you will believe "the Comte de Briançon, and his strong protest-"ations, so long as there are any hopes of P. Eugene's coming "early into Lombardy; but I desire you will believe them "no longer. It will not be for the service of the Queen and "her allies to have his Royal Highness make such a present "of his countries to France as the Elector of Bavaria has done "to the Emperor, which would be to join the Milanese and "all Italy à plain pié to Dauphiné and Provence.

I am informed that a great Genoese ship of 40 guns is gone to Final, to transport 500 Italian soldiers to Barcelona. I have sent advice of it to the Lyme and Mary-Galley, and desire them to burn, sink, or destroy her, if they can. I cannot bear the sending of forces from the Milanese to Spain, and had rather see the recruits come from France for the Duke of Vendôme's army, though we have enemies enough in Italy. I am, &c.

To Mr. Secretary Hedges. HILL.

Wolf 18.20

Hill, Richard

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